WORKS IN PROGRESS

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 12 | THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION | APRIL 2003

Rachel Corrie, Nuha Sweidan and Israeli War Crimes

Steve Niva

The Israeli bulldozer that ran over and killed American peace activist Rachel Corrie, 23, in the Gaza Strip today had killed before. A few weeks ago, on March 3, an Israeli bulldozer killed a nine-month pregnant Palestinian woman, Nuha Sweidan, while destroying the house next door in a dilapidated Gaza refugee camp. Palestinian witnesses said that Mrs. Sweidan, 33, bled to death under the rubble as she cradled her 18-month-old daughter. Her unborn baby also died.

Rachel Corrie and Nuha Sweidan probably never met, but they will forever be linked as victims of Israel's 35-year occupation of Palestinian lands in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. They are both victims of Israeli war crimes. The Geneva Conventions expressly prohibits attacks on civilian populations regardless of the motivation, even if in retaliation for attacks on its own civilians. To attack civilian populations intentionally is a war crime. Both Rachel Corrie and Nuha Sweidan were killed during military actions against a civilian population, in this case, during a house demolition. Since June 2002, the Israeli army has destroyed more than 150 houses belonging to Palestinians allegedly involved in attacks, a policy human rights groups describe as collective punishment and which has drawn US criticism in the past. This past month, Israel nearly set a record for killing Palestinians, mostly civilians, in a single month. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, Israeli assaults killed 82 Palestinians, of them 50 in the Gaza Strip and 32 in the West Bank, wounding an additional 616 persons. Israeli soldiers also killed several Palestinian children and 3 medical staff as they sought to attend to wounded. Now, they have killed an American peace activist. In this same period, only six Israeli's were killed, all of them soldiers. Why so many civilian casualties? These killings are the product of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's escalation of Israeli Army assaults on Palestinian population centers following his re-election on January 28. Since that time, Israeli forces have largely focused their wrath on Gaza. They have conducted unprecedented armored military operations in Gaza city centers, pursued suspected militants deep into refugee camps and deployed bulldozers to destroy dozens of building and homes. This latter type of operation led to Rachel Corrie and Nuha Sweidan's deaths. Israeli sympathizers may object that these assaults and civilians killings are justified in response to Palestinian suicide bombings but international law is clear that attacks on civilians are prohibited under any circumstance. Palestinian suicide bombings are clearly war crimes, even though some Palestinians claim they are justified

in response to Israeli massacres and the illegal occupation of Palestinian land. However, Israeli military assaults that systematically result in civilian deaths are also war crimes, regardless of their justification. Both are reprehensible and must be condemned. Moreover, few independent observers accept that Israel's assaults on Palestinian civilian centers in the past two months correlate as responses to suicide bombs. These operations began nearly a month after the January 5 suicide bomb that killed over 20 Israeli's in Tel Aviv. The only other suicide bomb this year came on March 5, well after the Israeli campaign in Gaza was underway. Furthermore, in both cases the suicide bombers came from the West Bank, not Gaza.

The reality is that Rachel Corrie and Nuha Sweidan will also be forever linked as victims of the extremist Israeli leader Ariel Sharon's relentless war on Palestinians on behalf of Israeli settlements and his vision of a Greater Israel that seeks total control of all of historic Palestine. The escalating assaults on Gaza over the past month indicate that Ariel Sharon is preparing the way for an invasion and reconquest of the Gaza Strip to complement his reconquest of the West Bank last April. With the West Bank now firmly under Israeli

(Continued page 4)

Investigation into the Death of Stephen Edwards

Drew Hendricks

On November 7, 2002, at ten 'till three in the afternoon, Stephen Edwards, a 59 year old man from Shelton, did not know he was about to die in police handcuffs.

Stephen and his wife Cindy had just left the Bayview Thriftway in downtown Olympia. As they walked into the parking lot, a man dressed in dark clothes accosted Stephen, and a struggle began between the two men. By ten minutes after three, Stephen was blue in the face, and was soon being rushed to the hospital in an ambulance. He was declared dead at the hospital less than an hour later.

News accounts later published in the *Olympian* would claim that Stephen was an overweight, out of control, armed shoplifter who was subdued by Olympia Police Officers to protect themselves and the public from his handgun. Those same accounts would claim that he died of 'natural' causes from a heart arrhythmia, or abnormal heartbeat, brought about by his struggle. The use of four jolts of 50,000 volts each would be "unlikely" to have anything to do with the heart attack, according to the TASER manufacturer's hired spokespersons.

The Thurston County Sheriff's Office and Coroner both signed documents clearing Olympia Police of any wrongdoing and laid the case at the door of the Olympia City Attorney, recommending that Stephen's widow Cindy be prosecuted for third degree theft. The police officers who had arrested Stephen were put back on active patrols, and life - for everyone but Stephen's family - returned to normal.

The Investigation Which Wasn't

Because Stephen died while in Olympia Police custody, an outside agency was called in to investigate the incident. That outside agency was the Thurston County Sheriff's Department (TCSO).

The TCSO assigned Detective David Haller, a veteran investigator in the property crime section, to lead the investigation. Detective Haller did what he usually did at the scene of a shoplift; he sought to prove that the suspect had stolen property, and in this case he also sought to prove that the suspect's wife had fled the scene afterward by calling a friend for a ride.

The TCSO also interviewed the officers involved. Olympia Police Of-

(Continued page 4)

Honoring Rachel

Austin Kelley

I have just finished listening to the moving speeches presented at the Memorial Ceremony for Rachel Corrie. A recurring theme was the possibility of actually DOING SOMETHING that would benefit the people Rachel died assisting. As a Jew, and a person of color, I applaud the idea of creating a community center in Rafah, and hope that Olympia will form a sister-city relationship that will help make that possible. We can all help make that dream a reality.

There is more that has yet to be realized, however. The President of Evergreen, Les Purce, in his introduction to the Memorial spoke glowingly of Rachel and her commitment to justice for the people of the Middle East. Evergreen has even created a special fund in Rachel's name through The Evergreen State College Foundation.

Unfortunately, it has been the position of the College that the records of the Foundation should not be open to the public (an assertion which has been questioned by some legal experts). One piece of information which has been publicly released by the Board of Trustees is this: the Foundation does NOT, in their opinion, have to adhere to the socially-responsible investment guidelines of the College, and in fact recently decided to invest in tandem with the University of Washington, which is notorious for its socially-IRRESPONSIBLE investment policies.

Here then is something practical that Evergreen could do which would truly honor Rachel's legacy: 1) Open up the books of the Foundation to the public, and publicly commit to socially-responsible practices that are at least as good as those which the rest of the College has declared allegiance to. 2) Allow the Evergreen community to COLLECTIVELY take a stand for those principles which Rachel embodied, and so many of us stand for. Those principles would clearly include: Peace in the Middle East, with Social Justice for all.

Rachel Corrie's life, and death, challenge us to be the best that we can be. I can think of no more fitting memorial.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

Submissions:

Correspondence, articles, art, and photographs are always welcome. Please, when possible, put articles on a 3.5" IBM-compatible disk (text preferred) or via e-mail. Artwork and photos should be camera-ready/ black & white.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number.

Articles may be reprinted. Please cite source.

If you don't see your issue being covered in Works In Progress, it's because you aren't writing about it! (Or aren't finding someone else to cover it!)

Send submissions to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295, <wip@olywa.net>

Back Issues:

Get your catalog of indexed WIPs below. Some back issues are available in the Timberland Library system. WIP is being archived on microfilm by the UW Library.

WORKERS IN PROGRESS

Dave Campbell
Chelsea Chase
Sebastian Chase
Renee Cruickshank
Megan Davis
Teresa Jennings
Jerome Johnson
Kayden
Margaret Love
Sandy Mayes
Hali Panneton
Jeff Sowers
Sylvia Smith
Pat Tassoni

Mission Statement:

"Our aim is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. Works In Progress is dedicated to providing a voice for those most affected by the exclusionary and unfair practices that seek to silence the oppressed."

Anti-Discrimination Clause:

We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

Governing Tool:

The following statement will become part of the Editorial Policy and will be the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause: *WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.*

WIP Schedule

Submission Deadline:

Friday, April 18th

Proofreading Meeting:

Monday, April 21st

Olympia Library at 6:30pm

PO Box 295 Olympia, WA 98507
wip@olywa.net * www.olywa.net/wip

Advertising Info

W.I.P. Ads at 493-2876

Inch Rate $7.50
Business Card $25.00*
5" X 5" $75.00
4 Months for the price of 3
Special Non-Profit Rates

Announcements, etc.

Thurston County CROPWALK 2003

The 22nd Annual Thurston County CROPWALK will be held Sunday, May 4th at 1:30 pm (with registration beginning at 12:30 pm). The 10k walk/ run raises money to fight hunger around the world with 25% of the funds going to local hunger agencies in Thurston County. CROPWALK 2003 will start from the Temple of Justice at the Capitol grounds this year and go past the Farmers Market to East Bay Drive and Priest Point Park and back. Over $32,000 was raised last year and estimates are that world hunger has been reduced from 33% to 20% in the past 25 years. YOU can become a part of ending hunger in your lifetime by walking or running any portion of the 10k event!

State workers who want to walk or run can pick up pledge forms at local churches or faith groups or by calling Associated Ministries at 360-357-7224 for more information. CROPWALK is affiliated with Church World Service which assists in farming education, hunger relief in disasters, removing land mines, AIDS education, and has turned weapons into farm tools in South Africa. Currently work is underway in the Middle East feeding refugees from the war in Iraq. CROPWALK also assisted families of the Oklahoma City bombing for 4 1/2 years and is now assisting victim's families of the September 11th attacks. More information is on the websites of www.cropwalk.org or www.churchworldservice.org.

Thank you for your support – Dave Groves, Dept. of Licensing Employee and Publicity Volunteer for CROPWALK 2003 – To volunteer call 357-7224 or 943-6235.

BEFORE YOU FORGET, GET INVOLVED! (SEE BELOW)

WROC FILM EXTRAVAGANZA SUNDAY, APRIL 13 3 pm

at

NO EXIT

(Entrance in the alleyway, behind the Fireplace Store on 4th Ave.)

Join us for films about poverty and the people who are doing something about it!

Entry fee, sliding scale from $1. Refreshments available.

A benefit for WROC, the Welfare Rights Organizing Coalition. For more information, call 352-9716 or email wrocoly@wroc.org.

Ongoing throughout April: Bicycle Commute & Bicycle Safety Workshops (scheduled by request). Bicycling is Clean, Healthy and Self-Powered!

Tired of giving your money to oil companies? Looking to make the switch to pedal power, but not sure how to begin? Need help planning out your route? Unsure about bicycle traffic laws, or just ready to learn effective cycling? Call to find a workshop near you, or to arrange one for your school, club, or workplace: Jim Dees at (360) 402-6242, or Chris Hawkins at 352-1763.

Friday April 25 - Wrenchers' Ball. 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Olympia Transit Center, Olympia. Come register for the 16th Annual Bicycle Commuter Contest and get your bike tuned up for FREE. To help out or for more information call Jim Dees at (360) 402-6242, Chris Hawkins at 352 1763 or visit www.climatesolutions.org.

Friday May 2 - Bicycle Commuter Contest Registration Deadline. Get your registration form for the Bicycle Commuter Contest to Climate Solutions, 610 E. 4th Ave., Olympia, by 5:00 P.M! E-mail us at bikecommute@climatesolutions.org.

(continued page14)

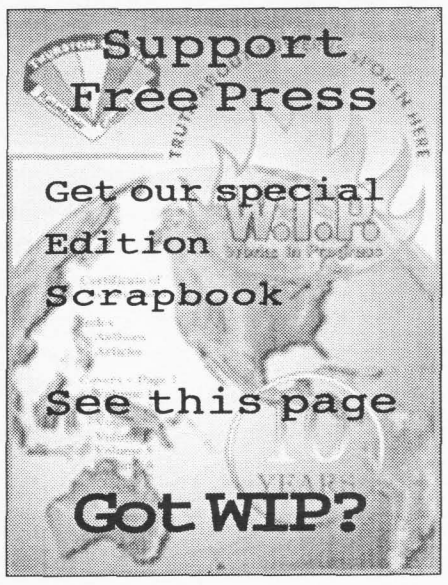
Only You Can Keep WIP Going for Another 10 Years

Subscriptions: ☐ Individual ... $35 ☐ Low-Income ...$15

Merchandise: ☐ WIP Flame LogoT-Shirt . . . $15 each; # _____ size(s)_____

☐ WIP 10-year Retrospective Scrapbook . . . $15 each

☐ Catalog/Index Listing...$1; back issues...$1/each



Support Progressive Journalism

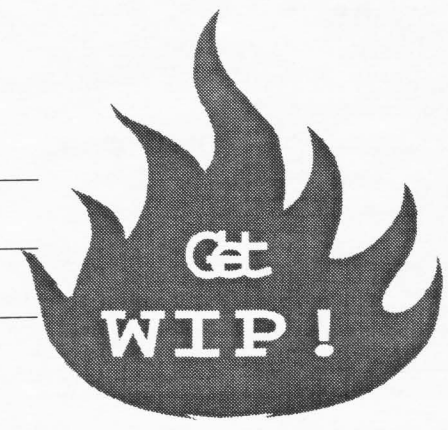
If the corporations aren't paying for it, then you have to!

Name _____

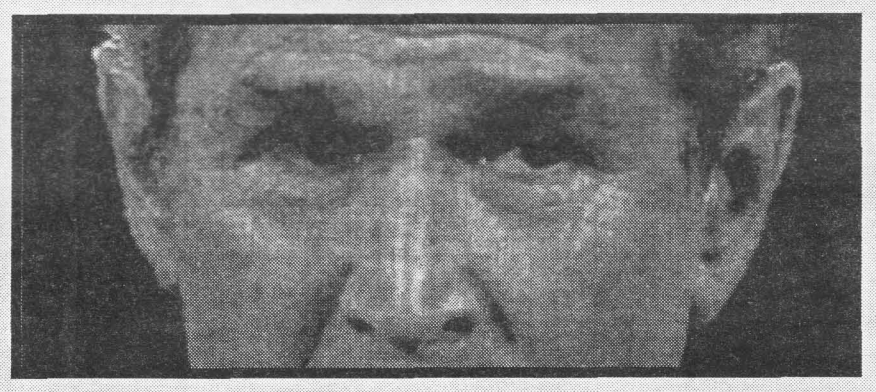
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to: Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507



APRIL 2003



Mad George's Sunday School Lesson

☐ Iraq ☐ N. Korea ☐ Iran

Which would Jesus bomb first?

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Going to church no more makes you a christian than sleeping in your garage makes you a car. Garrison Keller		**1** 2002: Bush demands Arafat denounce terrorism and urges Sharon to "keep pathway to peace open" while protecting Israel	**2** 2002: Arafat rejects Israel's offer of permanent exile 2002: Safeway says it will cut the post office at Tumwater store	**3** 1995: Feds estimates cost to clean up decades of nuclear weapons waste at $230-350 2002: Locke signs collective bargaining bill	**4** 1995 - Dow breaks barrier, passes 4200 2002: Philip Morris in talks w/ S African co. over purchase of Miller Brewery	**5** 2002: Locke vetoes funds that would protect The Washington Center for the Performing Arts from paying high taxes
6 1995: Bill Clayton, 17, Sam Schaefer, 16, attacked on Olympia High School campus 1996: Olympia's new Farmers Market opens	**7** 1999: Yugoslavia closes main border crossings preventing ethnic Albanians from leaving; NATO steps up air strikes	**8** 2002: Hussein cuts oil exports for month or til Israel leaves Palestine 2002: Israel; leaves Tulkarem, Qalquiliya; invades Dura	**9** 1939: Marian Anderson gives concert at Lincoln Monument 1999: NATO air strikes continue across Yugoslavia;	**10** 1996: Clinton vetoes anti-late-term abortion 2002: WA state sues Tim Eyman for alleged campaign finance violations	**11** 1865: US President Abraham Lincoln recommends suffrage for black veterans and blacks who are "very intelligent"	**12** 2001: Studies connect ocean temps w/ carbon dioxide emissions 2002: Populist president Hugo Chavez of Venezuela overthrown
13 1966: Martin Luther King denounces the Vietnam War which is "rapidly degenerating into a sordid military adventure"	**14** 2002: Colin Powell meets with Arafat in his compound for 3 hours 2002: Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez is restored to power	**15** 2002: Israel's Arial Sharon refuses to withdraw troops and vows to continue assaults on Palestinians in the West Bank	**16** 1906: 4 killed as 5,000 coal workers battle 100 cops in Johnstown PA 1999: NATO blasts oil refineries, military barracks and airports	**17** 2002: Bush resumes building case to remove Saddam Hussein claiming it's the duty of democratic countries to confront rogue states	**18** 1961: 1000s in Moscow protest the Bay of Pigs Invasion 2002: Senate blocks drilling in Arctic Nat'l Wildlife Refuge	**19** 2001: Study links Vietnam exposure to Agent Orange to leukemia in children 2002: Rumsfeld visits Fort Lewis
20 1999: Public Disclosure Commission says free Husky tickets for state legislators is okay 2002: After 8 days, Israel has leveled Jenin	**21** 1999: NATO begins use of Apache attack helicopters; NATO 2002: Powell urges removal of troops around Arafat's compound	**22** 1998: Congress release tobacco co. documents 2002: US renews its demand for Israel's total withdrawal from the West Bank	**23** 2002: Pope says "no place" for child molesters in the priesthood 2002: 3 appeals filed against proposed asphalt plant	**24** 2002: Feds approve natural gas pipeline through Thurston to Grays Harbor and crossing the Black River	**25** 2002: Saudi Arabia warns Bush to rein in the Israelis 2002: Safeway promises to keep store post office in Tumwater	**26** 2002: Report clears co. prosecutor Holm of sexual harassment 2002: UN delays fact-finding mission to Jenin
27 1902: Russian peasants destroy 80 estates 2002: Four killed in Israeli settlement 2002: NRA takes credit for Bush's win	**28** 1999: US House votes to limit Clinton's ability to send it ground troops and withholds its support for NATO's air strikes	**29** 2002: Locke warns that the failure to pass a 9 cent referendum would set back state's effort to fix clogged highway system	**30** 1803: Louisiana Purchase: 4 cents an acre 1906: Twenty striking miners are shot by state troopers in Pennsylvania	**...the third George to be President of the US must be willing to clamp down on his own dissident citizens the same way that King George III of England did in 1776. These are the requirements of empire. Thom Harmann**		

Rachel Corrie, Nuha Sweidan and Israeli War Crimes (continued)

control, Gaza has become the sole remaining area of armed Palestinian resistance to Israel. It stands in the way of Sharon imposing a settlement on the Palestinians that will assign them small, disconnected Bantustans surrounded by hundreds of Israeli settlements. Ariel Sharon was the original architect of the massive expansion of settlements after 1978 and continues to be their main patron. Sharon is well known for his cold, calculating, tactical acumen, both as a General and as a politician. He is also known as a ruthless fighter and has been accused of crimes against humanity for his role in the massacre of nearly a thousand Palestinian women, children and elderly people in Beirut in 1982.

He is well aware of the sympathy Israel has received in response to the brutal suicide bomb attacks over the past few years. He knows that the world is focused on the impending war in Iraq. Thus, he has calculated that the time is right to set in motion the reoccupation of Gaza, even if it provokes further suicide bombings because he can use them as a pretext for even larger actions. Menachem Klein, an Israeli political scientist at Bar Ilan University near Tel Aviv, outlined the logic of Sharon's actions in a recent Christian Science Monitor article (13 Mar 2003). "These raids can be a kind of rehearsal, with the idea to arrest someone, but also to see how to get in and out, what tactics to use. A rehearsal on live people. And the thinking is that if the world gets used to these short-term reoccupations, it will digest the long-term one."

Rachel Corrie, Nuha Sweidan, over a hundred Palestinians and scores of Israeli civilians are the victims of this live rehearsal. It is true that Palestinian suicide bombers have helped contribute to this cycle of violence through their own vicious acts. Indeed they have murdered women, children and innocent civilians as well. However, this is not a symmetrical conflict. Israel dominates the lives and land of over 3 million Palestinians through massive military assaults imprisonment of thousands, torture and systematic starvation policies that have lead to a major humanitarian crisis in many areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In fact, Rachel had been working with other members of the International Solidarity Movement (ISM) to defend a newly dug water well from Israeli attempts to destroy it before she was killed.

Moreover, since his return to power two years ago, Ariel Sharon has systematically escalated Israeli military assaults and assassinations in search of a military solution, despite the waves of suicide bombings, in order to achieve a very clear set of political objectives. At the top of the list has been the destruction of any base of Palestinian political and military resistance to Israeli settlements and permanent control of the land Israel occupied in 1967. Gaza is his last objective. There is no "balance" in this conflict. It is time to call Israel into account for its war crimes and time to stop Ariel Sharon from imposing his violent dream of Greater Israel on Palestinians. It is time to stop the needless deaths of Rachel Corrie, Nuha Sweidan and others, whether Palestinian or Israeli, or now, American.

*Steve Niva is a Member of the Faculty, The Evergreen State College. He teaches international politics and Middle East studies. He met with Rachel Corrie before she left for Gaza in January and is deeply saddened by her tragic and unnecessary death.

Olympia Community Yoga Center

• Yoga Classes • Holistic Studies
• Workshops

1009 E. 4th Avenue, Olympia, WA 98506
360-753-0772
Call us about Work-Study

Mixx 96 fm
KXXO

"Soft Rock for the Great Northwest"

Rockway-Leland Bldg. • Downtown Olympia

Investigation into the Death of Stephen Edwards (ontinueded)

ficer Jeffrey D Jordan, who was the first responder to the scene, had used his TASER four times in just 60 seconds, according to TCSO reports. Jordan had first used his TASER when Stephen was walking away from him, in an effort to get Stephen to stop. Officer Jordan did not yet know that a gun might be involved, because no one had told him by then. News stories in the *Olympian* would later miss this detail, claiming that the officer had used the weapon defensively after a furtive movement by the suspected shoplifter.

The second responding officer, Paul R Bakala, assisted in the arrest by standing on Stephen's hand and punching him in the face as Stephen kneeled on his hands and knees on the ground. This was the blow which finally succeeded in gaining control over Stephen. Paul and Jeffrey used two pairs of handcuffs, linked end to end, to restrain Stephen Edwards face down on the damp November pavement. Less than fifteen minutes later, that was where Stephen died. He was never moved to a car; he was never questioned about his side of the story. No one found his wife to tell her what had happened. (She waited at the store for him, asked the officers at the scene for information, and eventually had to call a friend to pick her up. She was arrested at her home by TCSO Detectives Haller and Clark later that night, although they did not book her.)

The man who accosted Stephen, Bayview plainclothes security guard Dion McNeeley of Yelm, later told TCSO investigators that he heard Stephen complain twice that he could not breathe properly, after he had been handcuffed. Officer Jordan recalled that he also heard Stephen mention this, once. Neither man turned Stephen over or lifted him into a vehicle.

Former Pierce County Medical Examiner, Emmanuel Lacsina, later concluded that Stephen had no signs of 'positional asphyxiation,' a condition in which handcuffed persons are suffocated by their own weight after being improperly restrained. Lacsina had done the autopsy for Thurston County Coroner Judy Arnold's office. His conclusions also noted that the health of the overwieght man was poor, causing a 'probable cardiac arrhythmia,' leading to death.

The pathologist wrote in his report that uncited "literature on the safety of the TASER" indicated that a 50,000 volt, 26 watt jolt could not have caused Stephen's death, although no mention was made of how many jolts were administered or at what times they had been delivered. TCSO reports concluded that all four jolts were given in just one minute. The TASER keeps an electronic log of its trigger times and dates for later analysis.

The TASER's user manual clearly states that it is a deadly weapon and should not be used except in self defense.

The Independent Investigation

Olympia Copwatch began investigating this incident by requesting every report available for Olympia case number 2002-09614, TCSO case number 02-45433-11, and Coroner's case number 02-1417-11. We were given much documentation, but what was missing was more telling than what was present.

We were not given the incident reports or interview transcripts of the two first responder officers, Jordan and Bakala. We were not given transcripts of the interviews with the plain clothes security guard. We were not given the witness statements of the persons closest to Mr and Mrs Edwards as the incident began. We were told this was because the records were "preconviction data on Mrs Edwards" and were exempt from disclosure for that reason.

At least we now understood the bizarre practice of charging a widow with contributing to shoplifting.

That 'reason' for nondisclosure does not explain the absence of the radio logs or TASER log in the first releases, nor does it explain why Thurston County Sheriff's Office has released no documents at all in the case. While TCSO did let us view, twice, the summary investigative report written by Detective Haller, they did not let us have a photocopy of that document. Fortunately someone at the department decided to leak an unredacted version to us, and we were able to get the names of the witnesses and participants.

This investigative summary is the same document which Prosecutor Phillip Harju reviewed in making his determination that no wrongdoing was found on the part of the Olympia Police Officers. Yet it is also the source for many of the damaging facts we have so far uncovered. It is also where we found that the use of the TASER in the Olympia Police Department is considered appropriate BEFORE the use of OC Spray. Detective Haller wrote in his summary that Officer Jordan's use of the TASER fit Olympia Use of Force Guidelines section 4, a section including arm locks and hair grabs as possible actions. Level 5 is pepper (OC) spray by itself.

A review of local departments has found that Olympia has so far used TASERs almost 15 times more than all other departments combined, in just one year of deployment. Tumwater, which had them for two years at the time of our query, had used them just four times. Lacey officials could not recall any uses, but had only deployed them for a few months at the time of our query. The Evergreen State College has never used them on patrol, only in training. So far we have counted 24 uses of TASERS in Olympia, in little over a year of deployment.

The handgun supposedly found on Mr Edwards and reported stolen in the Olympian turns out to have two different serial numbers, depending on which police report you read. Who knows which is which and whose it was?

Memoirs Of A CopWatcher

Marco Rosaire Rossi

I recently finished my five days on a work crew sentencing I received from an Olympia Municipal Court. My crime: copwatching or as the prosecution put it "obstructing an officer." I plead guilty to observing Officer Costello and Officer Bakala in downtown Olympia and refusing to move where Officer Costello asked me to because I felt his request would infringe on my legal right to observe him and Officer Costello Bakala in the course of their duties.

People who know the history of Officer Costello and Officer Bakala understand the need for citizens to watch both men. Later that same day I saw them questioning people in a car they had pulled over. Witnesses on the street said that they saw both officers draw their guns when the driver of the vehicle, acting nervous but showing no signs of threatening behavior toward the police or other people in the car, refused to roll down his window to talk to the police. The officers made everyone get out of the car and left the car's lights on. People on the scene mentioned several times to the officers that they had left the vehicles lights on, but the officers continued to ignore them until Costello yelled at one homeless person that if he tried to turn off the lights he would be shocked with electrity. After the people who were pulled over were booked and came back to their car they found the battery completely drained and the car dead. I asked about the lights, and they told me a person could just turn them off with the switch like any other vehicle.

Later that month I saw both officers in the Sylvester Park talking to some kids and stopped to watch them again. I arrived at the very end of the episode and could not piece together what happened. There was a young woman who was sitting down and crying. At one point Officer Bakala stood over the women and screamed down. The women continued to cry and the officer walked away. Officer Bakala also was involved in the tasering of 59-year-old man Stephen Edwards outside of Bayview Thirftway. The Thurston County Sheriff's department recently found the officer not guilty of any wrong doing, but one witness who saw the incident claims that Officer Bakala punched Edwards several times in the face while he laid on the ground after being hit with a taser. Homeless, street people, and activist have given similar accounts of Bakala's and Costello's extremely aggressive and disrespectful character. Their record of misconduct, though not officially reported for fear of retaliation, is long and frustrating.

The usually sentence for being charged with obstruction while passively observing an officer from a distance is a $400 fine and a requirement that the convict has a year without any other offensives. When I stepped into the courtroom, the public defender and I were shocked to find that I was being charged with 10 days in jail. When the public defender asked the prosecuting attorney why I was being charged with such an outrageous sentence, the prosecuting attorney replied "it's the new things,"(as if a sentencing was a certain fashion). He then proceeded to describe how there were too many officers in the downtown complaining about people obstructing them and how the officers felt it was a risk to their safety. With a prosecutor ready to pounce and a public defender not that eager to fight the charge, I was not presented with many options. I could either plead guilty and take the ten days or go to trial and risk 90 days in jail and all the court cost. After brooding on the situation for about as long as I could, I decided to take the ten days of jail and get it over with. The judge end-up reducing my sentence to 5-days of jail with options, after the public defender commented on the excessiveness of the sentencing and called me stupid in front of the judge for what I had done. After the whole affair was done with, it came quite clear to me that some of the forces that run Olympia justice system have decided it was time to clamp down on people who wish to exercise their legal right to observe officers in the course of their duties. Cop watching had become a "problem."

I did not realize the full extent to how afraid the Olympia Police Department is with citizens advocating for police accountability and citizen in-put until the night of the police accountability march on November 26th. The day before the march I was walking in downtown Olympia and noticed that a flier advertising the march that was hung-up on the store window of Dumpster Values/Phantom City was no longer there. I had seen the flier there a few days ago, and now there were only pieces of scotch tape where the flier remained. The flier on the window of Dumpster Values/ Phantom City would not the only one that was missing. Hours before I noticed the missing flier, I went to the Java Flow to hang-up a sign that announced the starting point of the march had been moved to Bread and Roses and would not be at the Devil's Ordinary (which was the business the Java Flow turned into during the night). The owner of the Java Flow told me it was perfectly all right to hang-up a sign on his door that said the march had been moved. The next day, right before the march once suppose to leave from Bread and Roses and move to Bayview Thirftway, I discovered that my posting had been removed from his door.

The police presence during the march was unbelievably large. Around thirty people left from Bread and Roses and marched to Bayview Thirftway on the sidewalk. Throughout the night it was estimated that around 12-15 police officers involved themselves in our march, including one plains-clothes officer who video taped our march, officer Anthony Rios who assaulted a Works In Progress reporter, and two bike officers who followed one of the participants through downtown Olympia before the march even began. At one point during the march one person joked, "The people looked confused. Our signs say stop the police, but that is all they see."

The undertone of all these acts of sabotage, excessive punishment, and lying is telling involved people to be quiet or get ready for the state to give you a good ass kicking

After the march it was discovered that another flier advertising the march was probably torn down before the march had taken place. At the Olympia Copwatch meeting later in the week, it was discussed how Kevin Storman, the owner of Bayview Thriftway, admitted that he did not want members of Olympia Copwatch talking to his employees about what happened to Stephen Edwards, and the OPD had told people that they couldn't talk to anyone about what they saw even though they legally can.

All this subtle repression by those who fear Olympia being a place where civil liberties are protected, policing is done democratically with community in-put, and those who enforce laws are required to treat all people with respect and dignity, is intended to make advocates for police accountability afraid, isolated, and powerless. The undertone of all these acts of sabotage, excessive punishment, and lying is telling involved people to be quiet or get ready for the state to give you a good ass kicking; that the cops will start arresting and harassing people even more. This type of behavior reminds me of a very enlightening quote by Mahatmas Gandhi. When discussing how people in power tend to react to popular movements, Gandhi said, "First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win." Perhaps someone should call Police Chief Gary Michaels and the rest of the OPD and remind them that they can't be bullies and liars to Olympians looking for truth and justice forever.

Traditions
Cafe & World Folk Art

"Care to know where your money goes?"
Support fair trade with low-income artisans and farmers and you will.

- A center for fairly-traded products from around the world
- A cafe with good food
- A performance space for concerts, classes, forums, and more

300 5th Ave SW, Olympia • 705-2819 • www.traditionsfairtrade.com

"Just a splash from Heritage Fountain & Capitol Lake"

A Veterans Perspective

Dennis Mills

My father built Navy warships during WWII. My old college German roommate's father was a Luftwaffe pilot trainer. They were enemies, but 20 years later, their sons (Winfried and I) were college roommates in Hamburg. Hmmm.

In 1966 I was drafted because America had a new enemy: North Viet Nam. As an Army musician, I played the troops out on transport ships from the Port of Tacoma. Then for 2 years I played for numerous closed-casket funerals of soldiers killed in a senseless war. Mothers and fathers on both sides grieved because they lost their precious children due to war.

Thirty years later, my daughter can study or do business in Vietnam. She taught 4 years in China. I grew up indoctrinated that the "Red Chinese" were our enemies. But they were not for my daughter! Hmmm.

Why is it that every other generation chooses war? It's nonsense. Now we are told that our enemy is Iraq. Hmm.

Officials of this administration have stated that "pre-emptive strikes might sometimes be needed to safeguard Americans against adversaries..." Well, this American and former veteran from the Viet Nam era will not feel one bit safer if we drop bombs on a country that has not attacked us. Our dismal foreign policies have already created a very dangerous world.

Last March I visited Ramallah Friends School in Palestine. American made weapons were pointed at me by Israeli soldiers at checkpoints. Palestinian homes, buildings, and utilities were destroyed by American-made D9 Catepillars. Three American-made rockets missed the targeted Palestinian police station and hit the school. (see the attached "destroyed police station" photo.) I saw my tax money and our foreign policy at work firsthand! Ordered out of Ramallah by the IDF, I stayed in Jerusalem for several days. Before I flew out on Easter morning, three suicide bombings happened in reaction to Israeli military incursion. In a country that gave birth to the Prince of Peace, there was no peace to be found. A strong military has not produced a sense of security for any Israeli. It won't for Americans, either! (See photo of 5th graders. I interviewed the teacher in this picture. Many children at the school have lost a friend or relative to violence)

Our local newspaper, *The Olympian*, recently ran the headline: "U.S. has plan for nukes in Iraq." Paul Richter, LA Times, reported "military planners have been actively studying lists of potential targets and considering options..." My God, haven't we learned the horrors of nuclear warfare since Nagasaki and Hiroshima! Let's drop the political correctness of minimal "collateral damage" and just say our military leaders are planning to incinerate thousands of human beings created in the image of God. For what purpose? The White House spokesperson said "the United States reserves the right to defend itself and its allies by whatever means necessary."

If there is a United States 30 years from now, I wonder who the next enemy will be? Hmmm.

Is Public Health Being Co-Opted to Support War Through Bioterrorism Preparedness?

Julie Alessio

Bioterrorism preparedness has been making its entry into public health over the past few years. Prior to September 11th, 2001 I was asked to consider the position of bioterrorism coordinator for the Washington State Department of Health (WSDOH). I declined, the position was filled, and as I reflect back over the past few years working at WSDOH in community health assessment, I am increasingly aware of how receiving large sums of money for very specific things (e.g. bioterrorism preparedness) shifts public health in a way that, in my opinion, is opportunistic and does not protect and improve the health of people in Washington in a reliable way. General emergency preparedness would probably help the public health system respond to an event like the bombing of the twin towers. And, bioterrorism preparedness would likely help us respond to the release of anthrax by U.S. citizens. While the last case of smallpox in the world was in the 1970s, putting energy into smallpox planning should help us in the event of a smallpox case or outbreak. We must remind ourselves, however, that responding to bioterrorism is only a part of public health. In my opinion, as we shift more energy and resources into this narrow reactionary focus, general public health suffers, and our prevention efforts are undermined.

I received an email from Mary Selecky, the Secretary of the WSDOH, on February 4th, 2003 stating that we had ordered 4,000 doses of smallpox vaccine from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in order to move ahead with Stage 1 of our Smallpox Vaccination Plan (Phase I). On February 21st I received another email from Mary stating that WSDOH had held our first Smallpox Vaccination Clinic at Camp Murray the day before. At this pilot clinic, with our Department of Defense "partners", 70 state and local volunteer public health workers were vaccinated. It is estimated that smallpox related activities involved about 500 WSDOH staff hours in February alone. While the cost of a smallpox vaccination has been estimated as low as $13 per person, Pat Libbey, director of the National Association of City and County Health Officials, estimates that the actual cost of the smallpox vaccination is between $200 and $400 per person.

This Thursday, after the U.S. started attacking Iraq, I received another email from Mary Selecky stating, "Public health is an important part of the homeland security of our State and we are on alert, ready to respond." These "readiness" resources range from an after hours emergency hotline for drinking water to a mobile radiological monitoring assessment center. Again, I question the role of public health and the balance between a reactionary versus a preventative system. Some of the questions I have were recently addressed in a couple articles by David Solet, an epidemiologist in the Puget Sound area with over 15 years of experience in public health. (Smallpox pre-vaccinations misdirect resources,http://seattlepi.nwsource.com /opinion/109138_smallpox19.shtml and Pre-vaccination Poses Too Many Risks, http://www.wspha.org/wspha_winter_2003_newsletter.pdf

The following Q&A is drawn from an interview with Solet and excerpts from the two columns mentioned above.

Resources allocated to bioterrorism preparedness are unavailable to help offset deep cuts in basic human services.

Q: How does the plan to pre-vaccinate public health- staff with smallpox misdirect public dollars?

Many public health priorities could use support because of state budget cuts and are not receiving adequate funding. For example, in King County, despite increases in tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases, there are no funds to support programs to address these increases. Resources allocated to bioterrorism preparedness are unavailable to help offset deep cuts in basic human services. To fill a $2.4 billion shortfall, Gov. Gary Locke's budget proposes elimination of dental, vision and hearing coverage for about 300,000 poor adults covered by Medicaid; cutting enrollment in the Basic Health Plan by 42 percent, and cutting support that helps cover the cost of hospital charity care. In the face of these cuts to basic health and the fact that we can vaccinate up to three days after exposure, spending resources to pre-vaccinate health care workers and, potentially, others (if Phase II and III are carried out) is questionable.

Q: What is it like working as a public health professional in the current environment of preparing for bioterrorism?

Like many other public health staff across the state, I was recruited to join a core of "first responders" to be pre-vaccinated against the smallpox virus. The recruiters were ethical, answered questions and provided much information. But, for me, it brought home the real issue of what public health as an institution should be doing. It's my opinion that requiring pre-vaccination isn't a good approach. It sets up the expectation for others to ask for pre-vaccination when it is not recommended. The health risks associated with the vaccine are greater than any known threat of the disease. Many people would like to help in a team of first responders, but do not want to be vaccinated. Requiring pre-vaccination makes it more difficult to recruit a full team of first responders.

Q: What have been some of the reactions to your articles?

I have only heard positive comments – both in person and through email. People have told me that the columns reflect their views and they are glad they were published. They felt like there was a vacuum where no one was articulating these important issues. I have also heard from people in other states such as Oklahoma and New York. Of course, this doesn't mean that some people don't disagree with the column—I just haven't heard about it.

Q: Are there contradictions public health faces in planning for bioterrorism?

In my opinion, public health isn't being given the freedom to utilize resources in the most rational way for emergency preparedness. Instead, public health is being channeled into relying mostly on secondary treatment – our emergency preparedness plans prepare us to pick up the pieces after an attack rather than help us prevent the attack from occurring. Public health needs to be opposing war, a truly preventive approach, in order to protect the health of citizens. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says there is "no reason to believe that smallpox presents an imminent threat." The CIA reports that attacking Iraq will markedly increase the likelihood of terrorist attacks against the United States. The possibility of terrorism is considered remote by the CIA in the absence of war. Yet, the Bush administration is trying to convince citizens that starting a war with Iraq will protect us from terrorism.

Military aggression strengthens extremist political movements and puts all of us at an increased risk. Public health needs to take a broader approach to prevent war and prevent bioterrorism.

Q: Is smallpox pre-vaccination necessary?

I think we are relying on pre-vaccination too much. Vaccination is effective up to three days after exposure and available in the event of a smallpox crisis. We could recruit teams of first responders and not require pre-vaccination. Some leading experts, including Dr. William Foege, former CDC chief and a leading authority on smallpox control, question pre-vaccination, citing the lack of current information about its safety. Dr. Linda Rosenstock, dean of the UCLA School of Public Health, said in December that no evidence has so far been provided to warrant the vaccination of any American. Data from the era when everyone received a smallpox vaccination show that one in a thousand suffered serious health problems, and one in a million died from complications of the vaccine. So, no, I do not think the reliance on pre-vaccination is necessary.

Q: Do you have any advice to offer the general public?

Bioterrorism is a potential hazard and of course worries about bioterrorism are legitimate, increasingly so as the U.S. engages in attacking Iraq. But the public health community in Washington is strongly recommending against vaccination for the general public. I am certainly not going to be prevaccinated unless it is documented that the threat level becomes high. I would encourage each individual to ask whether it is worth the risk of side effects that range from the merely uncomfortable to potential death. Ask what the chances are that a smallpox attack will occur, and whether there is vaccine available in case there is an attack. What are the potential political motives for the vaccination program, occurring as it did with the ramp-up of war with Iraq.

Fear is a powerful persuader.

Q: Any final thoughts you would like to share?

I think the administration wants us to limit our discussions to whether pre-vaccination is safe or not.

However, they don't want us to question their role in actually increasing the risk of a bioterrorist attack through their foreign policy. Military aggression strengthens extremist political movements and puts all of us at an increased risk. Public health needs to take a broader approach to prevent war and prevent bioterrorism.

If you are interested in joining Public Health Workers for Peace in either Olympia or Seattle please email

A History of May Day in Olympia

By Eric Chase

May Day has a long-standing tradition around the world, especially in this country where it all began. The first May Day, started in Chicago in 1886, was a call for the eight-hour workday. The typical workday was anywhere between ten to sixteen hours long. Tens of thousands of protestors were met on the street with guns and clubs. A subsequent protest ended with a bomb explosion that killed one police officer and random gun fire that killed dozens of others, protestor and police alike, in what became known as the Haymarket Massacre. Eight Anarchists were tried in a mockery of justice and sentenced to death. Four of the eight were hung, one committed suicide in jail and the other three were later released when it became more evident that the trial was rigged.

May Day in Olympia has less of a dramatic history though nonetheless interesting. Throughout the Northwest, the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW or Wobblies) were organizing the timberworkers. Seen as a job befitting only the "dregs" of society, recent immigrants and hoboes, the IWW organized these workers into one of the most threatening forces to capitalist interests. All through the First World War, the IWW called General Strikes within the timber industry on May Day. May 1st 1916, 1917 and 1918 were marked by strikes in the Northwest that hamstrung the supply of timber to the war effort. With the notions that the working class of America has more in common with the working class of Germany than it does with any president or general, the IWW called for (unofficially) "No War except Class War!"

Many of the records and documents of this time period were destroyed by the United States Department of Justice during the Palmer Raids of the 1920's. Some old timers recall that May Day was celebrated in many of the nearby timber camps and picket lines throughout the Olympia and Puget Sound area, but accounts of any downtown labor parades are missing. As early as May 1st, 1919 though, Olympia sponsored a May Day festival that had less to do with labor and more to do with nature. Most certainly connected to the pagan roots, Olympia High School hosted the festival boasting that over 250 pupils would participate in a theme of "Voices of the Wood". The Morning Olympian did note that riots in Cleveland and Boston organized by the IWW and socialists claim the lives of strikers and police alike.

All through the First World War, the IWW called General Strikes within the timber industry on May Day. May 1st 1916, 1917 and 1918 were marked by strikes in the Northwest that hamstrung the supply of timber to the war effort.

By 1920, on the heals of the Centralia Massacre and the Seattle General Strike and amidst the raiding of IWW union halls, leftist political party offices, disappearances, murders and mass deportations, the Olympia American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars declare May 1st as Americanization Day. With a big party and feast in Priest Point Park, speakers described the "Americanization Program" and other ultra-right patriotic themes. According to *The Morning Olympian*, the party was attended by between 4000 and 5000 people, an unlikely number considering the number of residents in Olympia at the time and the amount of room at the park.

Much like the American Legion trying to erase the original May Day with it's xenophobic rhetoric, the following year the First M.E. Church of Olympia held its own "May Day Musicale". In an appropriation of the pagan Beltane festival and celebration of spring, the First M.E. Church stated that "The first day of May is universally celebrated as a festival of merriment and sung in honor of the so called Queen of May. Adapting this idea to the Christian program, this concert is working out as a May-Day crowning of Christ, creation's King."

None of these attempts to rewrite history or sway May Day away from its pagan and labor roots lasted. By 1924, Olympia's May Day festival though lacking in its labor message (in part due to a huge federal and state effort to quell any "leftist" groups) had moved its celebration to Sylvester Park. Several hundred people attended the crowning Catherine Redpath as May Day Queen as the Olympia High School girls performed a dance around the May Pole. Elementary school children were dressed in costumes and an orchestra played for the community. May Day tickets were sold to raise funds to buy athletic equipment for the elementary school.

May Day was a community event, but Olympia was not necessarily all of one mind. That same year, the IWW was struggling to raise money for many of its members languishing in prison for anti-war protests or for just having an IWW union card. Membership in the IWW had been made a felony offense. Meanwhile the Olympia Ku Klux Klan burned a 50x100 ft cross above the Deschutes waterway.

By 1925, the May Day celebration in Olympia is overshadowed by the new festival named "American Forest Week". Overflowing into the streets with numerous floats, a Boy Scout Marching band and parade route lined with American Flags and presided over by the Governor, and sponsored by local businesses with forest interests, the "forest Week Parade" was called "Olympia's most pretentious parade". The original May Day fest in Sylvester Park was less publicized and more interest seemed to be in Queen Dolores Shugart's dress than anything else. Of course the Olympia High School girls continued to dance around the May Pole.

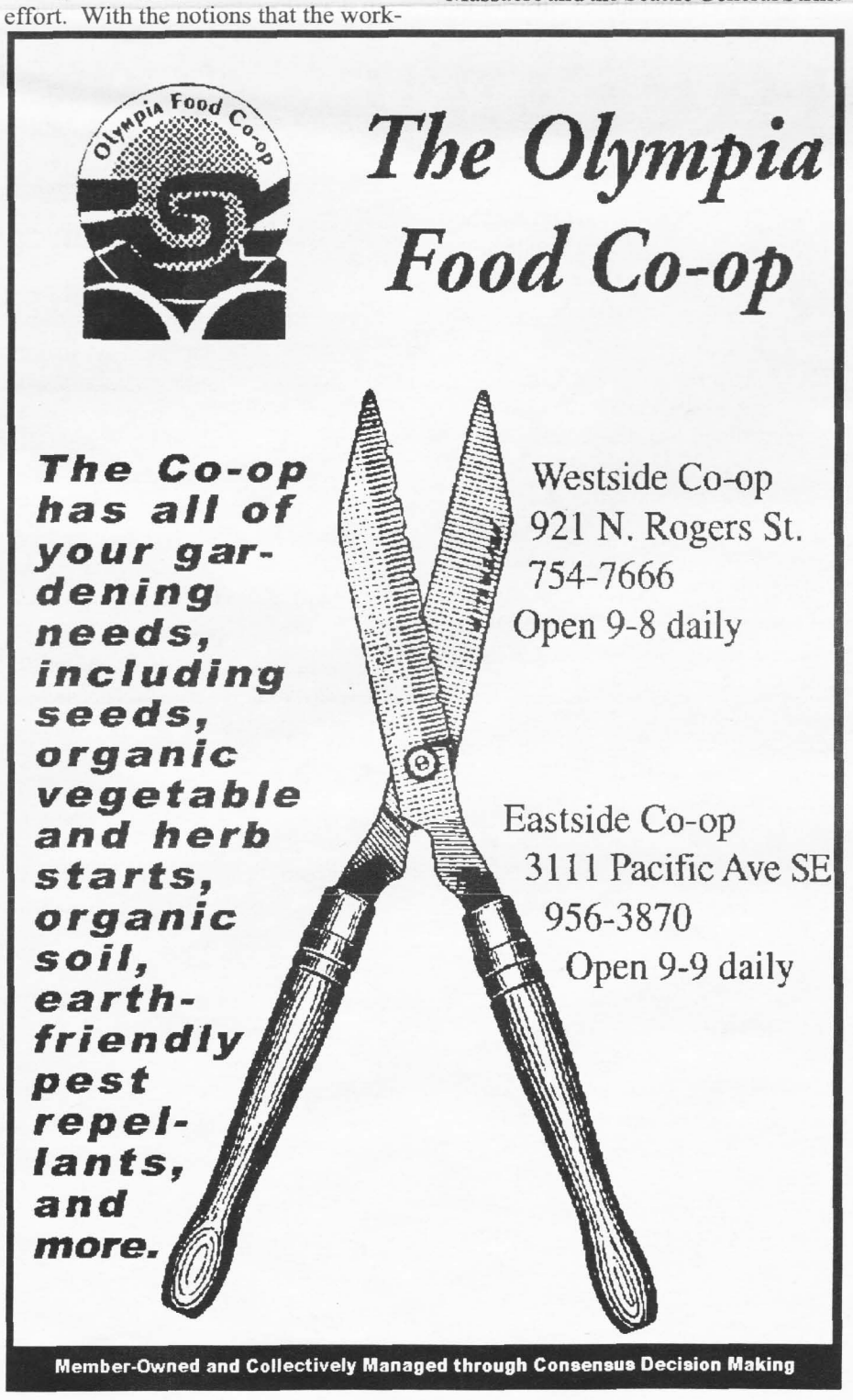
The following year, there seems to be no mention in *The Morning Olympian* of any May Day festival, but the American Legion does award an Omak youth for a Patriotic Poetry Competition. The official May Day festival seemed to have stopped being celebrated.

Throughout the 1930s, as the Great Depression sent many people into poverty and a life on the road, and the American Communist Party started to grow. The New York Veterans of Foreign Wars declared that May 1st will now be called Dewey Day. Both the VFW and the Communists agree to avoid clashes since thousands were expected from both groups. Olympia seemed relatively quiet. By 1934, the New York City Police Department expected over 200,000 people in the streets for May Day. In Olympia, according to *The Morning Olympian*, fifty Communists gathered in Sylvester Park to march to the capital and deliver demands to the governor. "American Vigilantes and other law enforcement representatives lined the sidewalks as a safeguard against any outbreak…". It was quite common for pseudo-legal para-military vigilante groups to act outside the law, but in the interests of big business and government. Today, we call these groups "death squads".

It appears that May Day celebrations became less and less prevalent in Olympia. Once in a while the tradition would rear up, but would be quietly put down by a conservative patriotic backlash, mostly it would live in the hearts and minds of individuals and neighborhoods where adopted pagan notions of fertility were played out by children leaving flowers on neighbors doorsteps and the occasional May Pole (the symbolic phallic representation of fertility) projects at the schools. In the 1950s, almost all reference to the International Workers' Holiday had been erased by the mechanisms of the latest Red Scare and many had declared May Day as "Law and Order Day".

In 1996, the IWW started rebuilding its Olympia branch, and by May 1st of 1997 organized some 200 people to march on the capital to turn themselves in as felons under the Anarchy Sabotage Act RCW 9.05.020 enacted after World War I to repress the IWW and all leftist political organizations. Though the Washington State Patrol declined to arrest the IWW members and their supporters, the ball was set in motion for further May Day actions in Olympia.

By 2000, several hundred protestors would occupy the intersection of Black Lake Blvd and Cooper Point Road, erecting barricades and reclaiming the festival that once was part of Olympia's "annual frolic". Labor education and perma-culture workshops, and lectures on neighborhood gentrification abound. Live music, food and dancing are commonly the fair and Olympia is seeing a rebirth of the community holiday as more and more individuals and organizations get involved each and every year. In an environment where entertainment and culture have been usurped by the powerful and become a commodity, isn't it time to take back what is ours? What will you be doing this May Day?


Olympia Food Co-op
The Olympia Food Co-op
The Co-op has all of your gardening needs, including seeds, organic vegetable and herb starts, organic soil, earth-friendly pest repellants, and more.
Westside Co-op
921 N. Rogers St.
754-7666
Open 9-8 daily
Eastside Co-op
3111 Pacific Ave SE
956-3870
Open 9-9 daily
Member-Owned and Collectively Managed through Consensus Decision Making

An Eyewitness Account of the Death of Rachel Corrie

Joseph Smith

I have never experienced anything like this in my life. I've never had someone close to me die before, let alone be brutally murdered right in front of my eyes. I don't even know how to react. I went through stages of dumbfounded shock and serious crying fits. I had no chance to be alone at all, I was either surrounded by Palestinians or on the phone with media. I chose the latter. I was doing interviews non-stop starting 30 min. after her death, all the way until midnight, and then starting again at 6am and continuing all day today. I literally would never hang up the phone, just switch to an incoming call on call waiting. When I did finally get a second to breath, I'd have like 30 missed calls. Anyway, it was a bit thereputic I think, telling the story over and over, and interviews make me feel important. All this thing is is a media event now. The few hours I had off interviews last night between midnight and 4am, was spent organizing todays events, press conferences, live TV/radio interviews, a demonstration and the beginnings of the traditional Palestinian 3-day ceremony. Now we're preparing for a serious influx of people from the West Bank and Israel, as well as some people from abroad, possibly including her family.

The stress is really getting to me. I couldn't sleep for the 2 hours I was allowed because my body won't relax. My heart is racing and shake a lot, and even have trouble breathing. My jaw is the worst though. It won't losen to save my life, and it hurts like hell, especially when I chew (when i get time to grab a falafel sandwhich). I've never experienced physical stress and tension like this. We thought this might happen eventually. We often spoke in the abstract that eventually one of us would get killed, but we always figured they'd shoot us, or it'd be an "accident", like in a house that is missiled or a stray bullet gets an unlucky activist. I never dreamed it'd be like this, the intentional crushing of a human being. I do believe it was intentional. I saw it, and I know he saw her, I know he did, and I know he knew she was still under the bulldozer when it backed up without raising its blade. I don't know if he wanted to kill her, or if he was just focused on doing his work and didn't care if he killed her or not, I don't know which is scarier. I don't feel like telling the whole detailed story right now. I promise that for the record I will tell it in detail, but give me a few days. I just want to quickly dispel a few myths you may have heard in the media. She did not "trip and fall" in front of the bulldozer. She sat down in front of it, well in advance, wearing one of the orange fluorescent jackets I got in Amsterdam. (by the way, I took the pictures you may have seen of her, standing with- the megaphone in front of the bulldozer, and the ones of her freinds helping her). He clearly saw her, and continued to drive until she was forced onto the top of the dirt he was pushing, elevating her so much that she was at eye level with the bulldozer's cab, he could see right into her eyes. He continued forward, pulling her underneath the dirt, and out of his vision. He continued forward, crushing her underneath the weight of the blade. He continued forward, until she was well underneath the bulldozer. It was then quite clear that she was nowhere but underneath him, but he proceded to back up, without lifting the blade, crushing her again I beleive that it was the combination of these two crushings that caused her death. She was defending the house of a physician. We've all stayed in the house, we know that there are no weapons of any kind there. Just a middle aged doctor and his lovely family. They want to demolish it because it happens to lie near the boarder, and they're systematically demolishing all the houses near the boarder. It has nothing to do with retaliatory or preventative operations. They were not searching for tunnels or bombs either. We know what this looks like, they do it alot. It involves armored drills and bomb dogs and shooting at the ground, none of which was present here. Its just a further example of the Israeli military's blatent lies. There was never any gunfire from any Palestinians, the only gunfire came from the tank, when it shot at the ground a few times in order to scare us. But even this was extremely minimal. The Palestinian that was killed was in a totally seperate area of Rafah, and was killed by blanket fire into the area, not in a gun battle. It is quite unfortunate that his death probably wouldn't even be reported anywhere if it weren't for Rachel. The Palestinians have been incredible. They are quite used to this, as thousands of their people have died. Indeed I now know how every Palestinian family feels, as many of them have lost multiple freinds and family to this occupation. Their support has been invaluable however, they've gone to full lengths to give her a proper demonstration and ceremony, like they give every other Shahid (martyr). They've made a nice poster of her as well, which will be posted in all of the places she has been, and there's ganna be a big march and demonstration this afternoon. We're planning actions for the comming days as well. We're planning to occupy the murder sight, and line the whole area with flowers, and erect a nice visible memorial as well. I don't know what this means for us now. It could go one of two ways. It could make us more effective, because now they know that we are not going to move, and that we will risk our safety to oppose them. Thus they will be forced to be more careful, and withdraw sooner. Or, it could mean that they know longer care, and will willfully kill and injur us without hesitation. This would render us useless as human sheilds, and our work would be impossible. So we'll have to see. I know we'll be much more careful, and have long talks about tactics, and with what people are still comfortable. I have a lot of thinking and considering to do. But we're not leaving, that's for sure. We're dedicated to staying here, especially with the Iraq war and risk of full invasion of Gaza. If any of you heard anything else and have questions, I'd gladly respond to them. I also encourage you to contact your local media, and tell them that you know someone who was there and saw it, and who is still there and willing to give a full interview. Feel free to give them my name and phone number: Joseph Smith, 092-67-628-507. Please spread the word, its all we can do now. I'm sure you'll keep me in your thoughts, I need all the energy I can get as I deal with this trauma. My close freinds and family have been wonderful, and havn't freaked out on me like I thought they would. But I share their concern.

Ok, I must go the press conference. Below is an article by my professor from Evergeen, its a fabulous analysis of Sharon's occupation and his attacks on innocent civilians. much love and desparity -joe

http://electronicintifada.net/v2/article1248.shtml

The Palestinians have been incredible. They are quite used to this, as thousands of their people have died.

Remembering Rache

Chris Allert

Rachel was my friend. I'm still overwhelmed with sadness at her passing. I'm still too sad to be angry about what happened. I like to think that I'm not angry because it was anger that killed her. But I know that I'm not angry right now simply because my sadness is so great, that there is no room in my heart for anger right now. Whatever it was that killed her I know that for her there can be no justice. Whatever it was that killed her I know that the injustice we live with is that our friend Rachel is gone. Whatever it was that killed her I know that nothing can bring her back. All we can do is remember her.

In another part of Rafah, at about the same time Rachel was killed, a Palestinian was shot by an Israeli soldier. I don't know his name. I don't know who he was. I don't know who his friends were. His picture wasn't in the papers all around the world. There was no obituary for him in Ha'aretz as there was for Rachel. I know that his family and friends must feel for his passing much as I feel for Rachel's. I know that if she had the power, Rachel would have given all the attention on her death to his.

I know there can be no justice for Rachel. I don't know who was driving the bulldozer that killed her. I imagine it was an teenager who was angry or careless. I want nothing from him because I know he can do nothing to bring her back. I only wish he could understand our loss. I only wish he could see how sad we are. I only wish he could see how important she was to us. I only wish he could see how empty our world will be without our friend Rachel.

How can we remember Rachel? I can think of no more fitting tribute than for us to remember the Palestinian who died beside her, to feel for his friends and family as I wish the soldier driving the bulldozer could feel for us. I can think of no more fitting tribute than for all of us in Olympia to mourn each and every one of the losses of the people of Rafah as if they were our own. Whenever we hear that someone in Rafah has died, let us find out who he or she was.

The people of Rafah mourned the loss of Rachel as if she were one of their own. They loved her as a sister. "Rachel Corrie. USA Citizen with Palestinian blood," they painted on the wall across from her office in Rafah. Can we love the people of Rafah as they loved Rachel? Can we love the people of Rafah as we love our own friends and brothers and sisters? I think this is what Rachel was working for. Maybe someday no one will be killed in such a brutal way because we will love all the people of the world as our own.

Peter Bohmer

Rachel Corrie was an incredibly good person. I mourn and am very saddened by her murder yesterday, March 16th, 2003. She was killed by a bulldozer as the Israeli military ran over her as she was protesting the destruction of Palestinian homes in Rafah in the Gaza Strip. Rachel, who was 23, grew up in Olympia, Washington. I originally met her when she was a student in the Options program at Lincoln Elementary school in1989. She was a friend of my son and played on the same YMCA basketball team as my daughter. Rachel and I talked a lot the last two years and marched together at various demonstrations, for example, May Day 2002. Rachel was a totally caring and gentle person who was outraged by oppression wherever it took place and had become very active working for social justice and peace. Rachel was a very modest, courageous and responsible person who was the heart and soul of the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace, a group she had originally begun working with as part of her study in the Local Knowledge program taught by Anne Fischel and Lin Nelson at the Evergreen State College. Rachel was very active in opposing the U.S. "war against terror" and U.S. militarism. One project she threw her mind and body into was a September 11th, 2002 day against the U.S. war in Afghanistan and against

(continued next page)

Rachel, Risk and Nonviolent Action

Glen Anderson

Many people have asked whether Olympia, Washington, peace activist Rachel Corrie took an unreasonable risk when she nonviolently stood in front of the Israeli military bulldozer and pleaded with the driver to spare the Palestinian home he was going to demolish. Here is how I understand the answer:

For several decades the United Nations has been passing resolutions saying that the lands that Israel has been occupying since the 1967 war do not belong to Israel. Israel is occupying them illegally in violation of international law and in violation of the United Nations' repeated efforts to restore peace.

Sadly, the United States government has repeatedly opposed and even vetoed the U.N. Security Council's attempts to up to restore peace. Other countries have been pleading at the United Nations to send international peacekeepers to go there and protect the human rights of innocent Palestinians suffering under this illegal occupation, but the United States has used its veto to prevent the U.N. from doing this too.

Every year the United States gives billions of dollars to the government of Israel for these illegal military purposes. The bulldozer that killed Rachel was made in the U.S. and most likely paid for by our tax dollars.

Every human being has a responsibility to do what is right. When our government repeatedly does what is wrong, we citizens of the U.S. (and citizens of the world) have a moral responsibility to work harder (even at some personal risk) to turn things around and set them right. Rachel was taking personal responsibility to perform the peace and human rights work that the U.S. government has shamefully refused to do.

Everyone knows that joining the military can result being killed in combat, but the public often fails to recognize or understand the equal courage and sacrifice of people who volunteer to work NONVIOLENTLY for worthy goals -- even at great personal risk. (It's one thing to go into combat with heavy armor and weapons. It's something very different to enter a conflict armed with nothing but love.) A fundamental principle of nonviolence is that it is better to absorb suffering than to inflict it on others. Rachel's courageous stand was an embodiment of that principle and part of the historical tradition of active nonviolence.

In the early-to-mid 1800s when the movement to abolish slavery in the United States was growing, many white people put themselves at great personal risk to help slaves escape.

In the later 1800s and early 1900s working people risked their lives to organize labor unions to protect the rights of working people, and some of them were killed for this.

During the 1930s and 1940s a great many people throughout risked their own lives to help Jews hide or escape from the Nazis.

In the early 1960s peace activists sailed boats into areas of the Pacific Ocean where nuclear weapons were scheduled to be tested in the open air, as a nonviolent way to call world attention to those atrocities. Their courageous efforts helped lead to the Atmospheric Test Ban Treaty. Your freedom to breathe air without radiation in it and your freedom to drink milk from grass that is not contaminated by Strontium 90 are owed partly to these activists who risked their lives for our health and safety and peace.

During the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s the African-Americans who worked in the Deep South for integration, voting, and other human rights were targeted for violence and many were killed. As long as this was happening only to Southern blacks, most Northern whites did not really know much about it. When some Northern whites went to the South to help work for African-Americans' civil rights, their presence created connections with the larger white America. Their Northern friends and hometowns and news media put more of a spotlight on the atrocities that had been happening anonymously in the South. These white volunteers knew their work would be dangerous. Some of them volunteered to work in rural areas controlled by the Ku Klux Klan and the White Citizens' Councils. Some of these Northern whites were killed. Poor anonymous black people's murders were only minimally reported in the press, so these white people's presence there helped the rest of us see what was really going on. They did not seek to be killed, and they took reasonable precautions when holding meetings, traveling the back roads, etc. When white racists chose to kill them, this revealed the violence under which African-Americans were living daily. Suddenly, the atrocities were exposed, the whole world was watching, and history started to change.

Through these and other historical examples, we can now look back and respect the courage these people displayed in risking their lives for freedom, human rights and peace. Many millions of people around the world already see Rachel Corrie in this long tradition. Eventually when peace comes to the Middle East, even more people will see the courageous nonviolent work of Rachel and other nonviolent healers as stepping stones toward that peace.

Rachel was wearing a bright orange-red jacket. She faced each other eye-to-eye, and they did make eye contact. She was shouting through a bullhorn to the bulldozer driver. The driver's decision to murder her is clear for the whole world to see.

The young Chinese man who faced down the tanks in Tiananmen Square stood up for freedom and democracy. So did Rachel Corrie. That young man became a symbol for freedom and democracy everywhere. Rachel tried to appeal to the conscience of the bulldozer driver. She ended up reaching the conscience of the entire world.

nel Corrie 1979 to 2003

(continued from previous page)

repression in the United States at Percival Landing in downtown Olympia. She got a lot of elementary school kids and classes to participate. So it is very fitting that the vigil last night, Sunday, March 16th, against the war in Iraq and to honor and mourn Rachel, was at Percival Landing. Close to 1000 people attended.

Rachel Corrie

Peace Dove's in the Procession of the Species

Rachel was a very reflective person who constantly thought about how to link together various groups working for justice, e.g., the labor movement and the peace movement. She volunteered at the Evergreen State College Labor Education and Research Center and played a major role in organizing a conference dealing with networking and strategies for justice and peace last spring, 2002. Another major concern of hers was to involve the local Olympia community that was not connected to Evergreen to the anti-war and economic and social justice issues and groups. Besides going to the Evergreen State College, Rachel also worked at BHR, a local mental health clinic and was active in her union, 1199, a part of SEIU.

Justice for the Palestinian people was one of many issues Rachel felt deeply about. She strongly opposed the Israeli occupation and supported a Palestinian state. For Rachel, feeling deeply always meant also doing something about her concerns. She had studied Arabic at Evergreen and decided to go to the Gaza strip in occupied Palestine for winter quarter. Part of her reasoning was that it was important to have international observers there as Israeli aggression was likely to increase when the U.S. attacked, bombed and invaded Iraq. She strongly opposed the U.S. war against Iraq. Rachel was aware of the dangers and risks of going to Gaza. She left Olympia on January 18th of this year, went to the West Bank and then Gaza, threw herself fully into human rights activism and solidarity with the Palestinian people. She volunteered with the International Solidarity Movement, people from around the world who have been witnesses to Israeli attacks on Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza and involve themselves in non-violent protest against the Israeli occupation. Rachel had planned to return to Evergreen State College for spring quarter to finish her studies.

Rachel Corrie will not be coming back to Olympia but let us all take a moment to reflect on what each of us can do to carry on her legacy by doing a little more to oppose war and further justice, equality and peace in the Middle East, around the world and in the U.S. Rachel Corrie was an ordinary and an extraordinary person.

Wes Hamilton

It was such a joy to work with Rachel in the studio. We spent many hundreds of hours together, in to wee hours of the morning, working on various projects. I would occasionally give her rides home at night so she wouldn't have to walk in the dark. She was always a bright shining light of joy. I would know it instantly when I arrived at the Procession Studio and she wasn't there. It would feel a little less complete. When she arrived, everything would light up. Her smile could melt an iceberg. She filled my heart with her joy for life and commitment to peace. That part of her will always be with me.

Sacred Earth and Space Plowshares II: Update on the Nuns

Holly Gwinn Graham

March 19, 2003

On February 21, 2003, as Works in Progress was going to press, the nuns of the Jonah House movement faced a Colorado federal judge for the first time. These sisters, in their Sacred Earth and Space Plowshares Resistance Action of October 6, 2002, symbolically disabled and disarmed a Minuteman III nuclear missile by hammering on the tracks that move the lid, then pouring their blood in the forms of crosses on the silo cover. For this action, since October, they have been in a windowless cell built for 6 with 16-18 other women in a county-turned-federal jail in Georgetown, Colorado. They are charged with felony sabotage and depredation of property.

Dominican Sisters Jackie Hudson, Carol Gilbert, and Ardeth Platte had their pre-trial hearing in the court of Judge Robert Blackburn, who demonstrated expected and proper adherence to the rule of law and fair procedure. As a result, there is reason to hope that charges against the nuns will be dismissed, although the hoped-for ruling by the judge "in a week to 10 days" from February 21st has not yet materialized.

Dressed in orange jumpsuits, the nuns came to court with a written statement that was entered at the end of the proceedings. It said, "The symbolic disarmament of the Minuteman III Missile at N-8 in northern Colorado on high-alert is a warning to the nation and the world that these horrific weapons are evil and criminal in the hands of any nation."

The judge might just agree. He first overruled the prosecutor's motion to not allow usage of the title of "sister" when referring to or addressing the nuns, and then denied the prosecutor's demand that the sisters not be allowed to pray in the courtroom.

Judge Blackburn went on to hear expert testimony from two defense witnesses that further corroborated the nuns' extensively briefed understanding of the gross illegality and criminality of the US's ongoing threat of or use of the first-strike, high-alert, 300 kiloton nuclear Minuteman III. Anabel Dwyer, counsel to Ardeth, wrote about the pretrial in an email to Baltimore's Jonah House. She reported, "Without substantive dispute from the prosecutor, international and criminal law expert Professor Francis Boyle of Illinois University testified that any threat or use of the Minuteman III, a weapon of mass extermination, is a crime against peace, a war crime, and a crime against humanity under binding US and international law.

"International Law professor Ved Nanda of Denver University Law School made it clear that the US threat to attack Iraq was real," (and happening as I write this article) "and in violation of basic US and international laws. Professor Nanda shook the prosecutor when he asserted the US has not excluded use of the Minuteman III ICBM in Iraq. Nanda stated that the nuns' non-violent and symbolic action was reasonable in the very dangerous circumstances."

According to Ms Dwyer, it seemed unlikely that Judge Blackburn could find the detailed fact and law testimony of these witnesses irrelevant, since the nuns carefully showed their direct relevance to the elements of the crimes charged. Sister Ardeth Platte said, "We have shown that under US law, the nuclear Minuteman III is obviously not 'defense-material' as defined by law. The prosecutor seems to be making an undue fuss over the legal and carefully measured methods we used to fulfill our current legal obligation for nuclear disarmament. Non-violent exposure, inspection and disarmament of one nuclear missile at a time is the only reasonable and possible way for our great democracy to live within the rule of law."

During the hearing, Bill Sulzman said the sisters were upbeat and seemed to be enjoying being out of their windowless cell. Jackie, fighting a cold, was nevertheless cheerful. All three were relaxed and enjoyed the opportunity to visit face-to-face. Bill Sulzman, of Colorado Veterans for Peace, has been a major link to the outside for the sisters over the last 6 months. The courtroom was jammed with 50 spectators, one a former cellmate of the sisters who had come to lend her support.

In her February 22nd letter to me, Sister Ardeth Platte wrote, "We shed tears of joy at seeing the masses of people in the streets of the world. What is happening is bringing a change in history. It symbolizes that we have tired of war, violence, force...we must change our life styles, get rid of our greed. We are ready to stop war forever, disarm our weapons of mass destruction. Then we will be ready for developing new social, economic, human relationships with people across the world."

Said Sister Carol Gilbert, in her letter of the same day, "This came to me at a.m. prayer...we should demand the US do an Environmental Impact Statement before any war. It could end war on the planet!"

From Sister Jackie Hudson's letter..."Haven't the millions in the streets been impressive? It gives so much encouragement. I have been in tears realizing the People-Power that is speaking.

"Our hearing on the 21st went as well as we could possibly hope, since the judge agreed to hear our 3 expert witnesses over the objections of the prosecutor. Bardwell spoke regarding unrepresentative jury pools and then Nanda and Boyle spoke. Francis Boyle even went so far as to challenge to prosecutor to prosecute US leaders for war crimes! Will the judge allow a jury to hear the truth spoken by these experts?"

The trial is set to begin on March 31, 2003.

During the hearing, "the Marshals allowed us to converse with supporters during a.m. and p.m. breaks, being cuffed and returned to a holding cell only for lunch. No touching or exchanging of anything, but there is usually no contact allowed at all."

Send monetary support and notes of solidarity to Citizens for Peace in Space, P.O. Box 915, Colorado Springs, CO 80901. Write to the sisters at Clear Creek County Jail, P.O. Box 518, Georgetown, CO, 80444. They are well and in good spirits as always, and they would love to hear from you.

Last Minute Update

Amid all the killing and madness from this war of conquest, another kind of distressing news arrived in our laps - not unexpected - the judge in the case of the Sacred Earth and Space Plowshares II has issued a 32 page order denying all the motions submitted on behalf of the nuns. He went on, in his order, to state that none of the issues they raised could be used as a defense in their regard. In addition, he granted the government's in limine motion.

The judge explained in his order that he does not accept the lawyers' (defendants) definition of national defense and national defense material.

All our weapons, in his view, are part of our defense (this, despite the fact that Pentagon spokespeople brag about 80% of our weaponry being offensive - we can take that in more ways than one). The judge allowed that the only thing that would alter his order is some new information that the defense might submit. At the 11th hour, after extensive work on their part, it is hard to imagine new information.

Local lawyers are trying to convince the nuns to make a try at what they term a "Mistake of Law" defense. This would involve stating that it was their mistaken understanding that they were acting within the law. They are strongly resisting that advice. In addition, they are strongly resisting the advice of lawyers to seek a continuance given the war mentality they are likely to encounter in a jury. They are resisting that advice as well.

(Becky Johnson - Oberlin graduate, going to trial in Georgia on April 1 and facing 1 and 1/2 years for repeated actions against the School of the Americas has been given the same advice to postpone and has also rejected that advice. Please keep her in mind and heart and prayer this week as well)

It was Carol Gilbert who put in the call last night; they have had some trouble reaching Jonah House this week as we - like so many/most of you-have been in the streets and jails resisting this awful war. Carol is calm and reports that they are all at peace and preparing as best they can for their trial. These women (all 4 of them - I'm including Becky) are, in the words of Anabel Dwyer, a national treasure. Would that they lived in a nation that understood the "things that make for peace."

-Jonah House, Baltimore

Dan Rather Gets an Interview

You may call me a "bleeding heart", I say you are right my heart is bleeding. When I hear George Bush complain about Saddam Hussein and how he is torturing his own people I am sad. I am sad because the truth is that the sanctions that George's father put on Iraqi people when he was in office kill more Iraqis (including children) than you will ever hear about on the news. I am sad because he is using this "fact" as an excuse to commit murder again. Murder of innocent Iraqis, Americans, English, Australian, etc. in an unjust war. Why didn't Bush try lifting the sanctions to empower the Iraqi people before trying to kill them in his (false) attempt to capture Hussein? Why is it that Bush and his father cannot touch Hussein without all this murder when Dan Rather can so easily get an interview? What is being covered up?

As I ask that question I think about the fact that as this country "prepares for war"(how do we expect a country this size to be united on one incredibly radical decision?) the media has completely stopped talking about Palestine and Israel. In reports from friends that are there, I hear that the death toll of Palestinians is rising in the last weeks as attention is on Iraq. I think about the fact that 19,000 Palestinians have died since September 2001. I think about the fact that a wonderful young woman named Rachel Corrie who grew up in Olympia and was an activist alongside me, who believed that as an American with so many rights it was her responsibility to fight without violence for other's rights, was killed by an Israeli soldier yesterday as she fulfilled her responsibility. I think about the fact that my tax dollars fund the brainwashing of Israeli youth, the murder of thousands of Palestinians and the murder of Rachel Corrie. What are your tax dollars paying for? Look at the numbers. They are certainly not paying for education. That would be just pennies of your taxes. Look at the numbers for yourself.

Since when did a democracy stop listening to the people? Isn't that the whole point? Yet, Bush and company say that the sentiments of millions of Americans, both conservative and liberal, that oppose his violent actions mean nothing to him. Nothing. How can we trust a "leader" that says things like that? He is acting like a dictator. We are letting him.

Where we are at this time is very multi-layered. There is not black and white. Despite what Bush says there is no "axis of evil." This is real life, not a Disney movie after all. We have to stand up as human beings and resist the drug of complacency. Breathe. Remember that we create the air that we breathe with the decisions that we make and how we live our lives. How much love do you give to yourself? How does that reflect in your partner, your children, your friends, and your co-workers? In the end, no war will change the world any more than a fight between children really decides whose toy it really is. I am tired of seeing signs that say: Go USA.

(continued next page)

Know More's "Evil-doer" of the Month Richard Perle: Chairman of The Defense Policy Board

Nancy West

As this newspaper prepares to go to press the administration of the United States of America begins it's preemptive war on Iraq with an early morning attack on Baghdad. Many reasons are suggested as to why a preemptive war is necessary. The Bush folks say, "to spread democracy", "to remove an evil dictator" and "to fight terrorism". Many others believe (know) that starting a war in Iraq is about oil (controlling resources) but even more than that it is that age-old reason—"Imperialism".

Mostly behind the scenes (we know W is just a "pretty face" being controlled by his handlers) are people like Know More's Evil Doer for the month of April, Richard Perle, who really understand geopolitical strategy ("strategery"?). These people recognize that now is the time for drastic measures if the United States of America is to maintain its present position in the global chess game.

The idea for war in Afghanistan did not first occur on September 11, 2001. Nor did the idea for a preemptive war on Iraq begin shortly after that, as might be inferred from the corporate media reporting. The United States administration knows that to maintain its present position of power and influence it must take an immediate aggressive stance.

Much has been written about what steps must be taken to maintain the U.S.' present global position. Documents written by people who influence U.S. policy are available to all who would take the time to find and read them. The current U.S. game plan is strongly influenced by Richard Perle. Perle, a member of the American Enterprise Institute—a conservative Washington, D.C. think tank—and the Chairman of The Defense Policy Board reports directly to the Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. Perle's friends see him as one of Washington's "best strategic brains" while his political enemies have labeled him "The Prince of Darkness." There is no doubt that he does have one of the best strategic brains in Washington but it is the purpose for which he uses it that must have gained him the label of "The Prince of Darkness?"

In a National Review interview Perle claims that the impending war against Iraq is not about Imperialism.

The United States was not designed or destined to become an imperial power. You will not find anywhere in the world where we intervened militarily and set up a colonial empire.

Current circumstances are making the second sentence of this statement an outright lie and the first sentence may have at one time been true but Perle and his associates are implementing a new design and destiny for the U.S.

There are several definitions of "Imperialism", one of which in the present context is most applicable. "The policy of extending a nation's authority by territorial acquisition or by the establishment of economic and political hegemony over other nations." Think "Afghanistan". Who invaded and who picked their present leader? Consider past U.S. overt and covert military actions as well as the present invasion of Iraq. A U.S. initiated regime change paves the way for the installation of a "democratic" government with economic policies that bear the official United States "seal of approval" and whose officials may even, as in the case of Afghanistan, have previous experience in the oil industry.

The Project for a New American Century (PNAC), a Washington D.C. think tank established in 1997 of which Richard Perle is a founding member, published the document "Rebuilding America's Defenses". This year 2000 document defines quite clearly the driving force behind the military policy of our present administration.

The following are the four "core missions" that PNAC has defined as being the basis for what they have labeled "Pax Americana".

- ***defend the American homeland;***

With the creation of the Department of Homeland Security, a color-coded terror alert system and the round up and interrogation of Middle Eastern nationals, this mission is well on its way.

- ***fight and decisively win multiple, simultaneous major theater wars;***

The continuing military action in Afghanistan (1000 new troops just sent in), the invasion of Iraq and the antagonizing words and actions towards other nations and which may have been designed to provoke hostile actions toward the United States, begin to fulfill this mission

- ***perform the "constabulary" duties associated with shaping the security environment in critical regions;***

It is certainly well recognized by the people of just about every other country in the world, if not by many in the United States, that the present U.S. administration has designated itself the global police force.

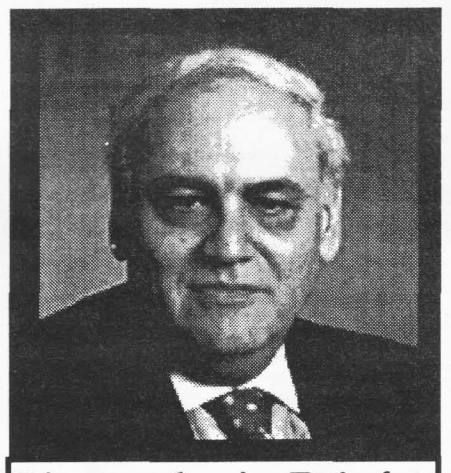
- ***transform U.S. forces to exploit the "revolution in military affairs;"***

This mission refers to Bush's "Star Wars" program. Enough said?

The germination of the strategy for a "Pax Americana" occurred years before PNAC's formation but their document "Rebuilding America's Defenses" has clarified it and Richard Perle, an unpaid political appointee, "The Prince of Darkness", one of Washington's "best strategic brains" is the man behind the scenes who is hell-bent on ensuring its success.

If this is not a plan for U.S. imperialist activities, it comes darn close. Say what you may but "if it looks like a duck and quacks like a duck, then we have at least to consider the possibility..." and so it is with U.S. imperialism!

Nancy West is a founding member of Know More, an Olympia political education group.



Biography in Brief

- **Current Chairman of the Defense Policy Board.**
- **Research fellow at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research.**
- **Member of the Board of Advisors of Foundation for Defense of Democracy (FDD), a pro-Israeli organization.**
- **Jewish Institute of National Security Affairs (JINSA) board member.**
- **Former chairman and chief executive officer of Hollinger Digital, Inc., the media management and investment arm of Hollinger International, a newspaper publishing company.**
- **Former director of Jerusalem Post.**
- **Former Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Policy, 1981-1987.**
- **Former staff aid to U.S. Senator Henry Jackson, 1969-1980.**
- **Producer, PBS, The Gulf Crisis: The Road to War, 1992.**
- **M.A., political science, Princeton University.**
- **B.A., University of Southern California.**

This is not a high school football game. We are talking about death here. We are talking about apathy and hatred causing those deaths. I was not raised to hold those characteristics in a high regard. I was told that God is love yet I see so many that claim to know God, living in apathy, ignorance (fed by television), complacency, and hatred.

As the sun shines today on my face I know that I am alive and I still have love in my heart. I can face my apathy, ignorance, complacency and hatred and let it go. So, if my heart bleeds, let it bleed love and may it contaminate everything that I touch today.

I love you all and I pray for your heart to be filled with love. Make room for it too.

Love, Monica

Bicycle Commuting: The Way to Go

Vanessa Schweizer

"I thought of that while riding my bike," Albert Einstein once mused when talking about his ideas on relativity. Indeed bike-riding puts a person in a different state of mind, especially when it's compared to other modes oftransportation.

Just as shoppers from the local food co-op can't help but be more "conscientious consumers" compared to their chain-store counterparts, cyclists can't help but be more "conscientious commuters." While riding a bicycle, one becomes more keenly aware of how the air smells, of fellow cyclists and pedestrians, and of one's own overall health.

As someone who used to frequent chain stores and drive heavily, I can remember never stopping to think of where my food came from, nor of where the wastes from my internal combustion engine would go. But then I tried some minor lifestyle changes - like eating organic fruit and riding my bike six miles to school (it surprised me how easy it was) - and realized that there was a different way I could function with tangible rewards. By stepping in these directions, I was doing something positive for my health, something positive for the health of the environment, and organic food just tastes better (similarly bikes just smell better).

If you've never done bicycle ommuting, this May is a perfect time. Climate Solutions is sponsoring the 15th Annual Bicycle Commuter contest, and you'll be rewarded just for trying. Last year's participants won free food and day passes to the YMCA, and those who rode the most miles in their age group, or the most days, also walked away with prizes like yoga lessons, North Face backpacks, and movie passes. You can enter as an individual or as part of a team, so be sure to talk with your friends and neighbors about it. We'll even help you plan your commute at one of our Bicycle Commuter Workshops and tune up your bike at our Wrenchers' Ball. Call us at (360) 352-1763 for more information, or visit us online at www.climatesolutions.org.

While riding my bike, I think of how I'm doing my small part to clear the air. I also feel a sense of community when I greet my brothers and sisters pedaling down the road. My heart and muscles thank me every time I ride, and so does my checkbook (I don't need to pay for gas!). Overall I'd have to agree that cycling is a truly inspirational experience. Way to go, Einstein!

VIC'S PIZZERIA

233 DIVISION ST NW (360) 943-8044

Ana makes a lovely vegan sauce!

Stay United for Peace in Times of War!

Chris Stegman

We in the Peace & Justice movement have a tough road ahead of us. But we should not feel despair because we are no longer a marginalized movement. Rather, we are becoming a worldwide global movement of historic proportions. Thanks to the blatant strategies of global domination being engineered by Bush & Co. (of which the takeover in Iraq is but one crucial component.)

While those that have only the corporate media to inform them are largely inclined to accept that narrow and deceptive view of reality, we in the global peace and justice movements have a plethora of alternative sources that will help keep us better informed and moving ahead.

Locally, we are blessed with KAOS community radio and public access TCTV. Regionally, we are blessed by our close proximity to Seattle, a city with a radical past, a strong union legacy and still a bastion of 'liberalism'. Nationally, we have several major coalitions that have mobilized millions for local to national events. And internationally, we are a powerful lot.

In our region, we put the United for Peace (Thurston County) Coalition together in January of this year. Starting with the cornerstone organizations, Olympians for Justice and Peace (OMJP) and Olympians for Peace in the Middle East (OPME), we have grown to 38 organizations including local businesses and church groups as well as elected officials. For more information go to www.united4peacetc.org or call 867-6196.

So by the time you read this the U.S. will be in full possession of Iraq, the oil fires may all be out and Bush will have declared 'victory' as the first leg of American military occupation of Iraq begins.

And in spite of the continuing bravado and the wave of American bravado (chauvinism) that this will spawn the 'victory' will be hollow and completely illegitimate and unjust.

For if Bush has played his hand and won this round in the race for American global military & corporate hegemony he has yet to win the hearts and minds of most of the worlds peoples, including those of most Americans.

Olympians Continue to Say NO War!

Capital Campus 3-14-03

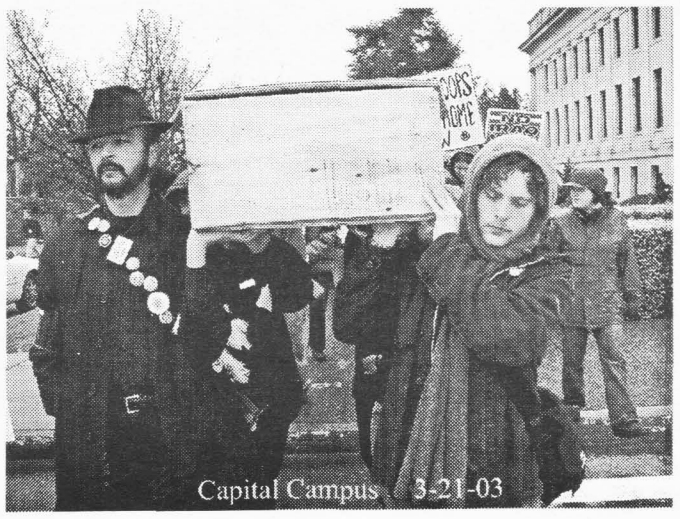
Capital Campus 3-14-03

Capital Campus 3-21-03

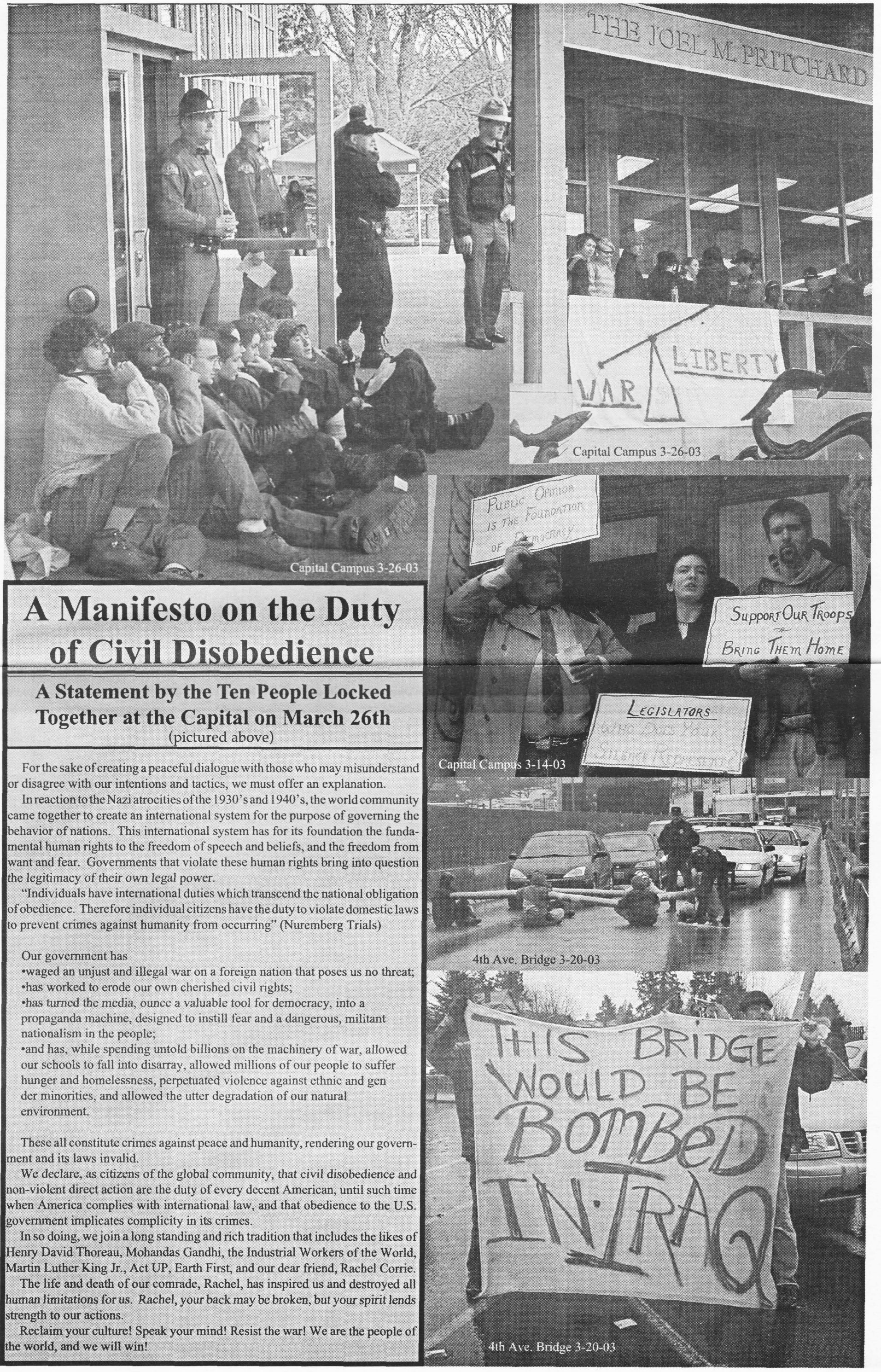
Dear Jammers,

George Bush's moment of truth came when he started his war. Now all of us face our own moment of truth. This war runs deeper than blood for oil or US versus UN, and there isn't any real way to say in words why the bullets and bombs are such stark symbols of a system that is rotten to the bone. So: give yourself a gut-check, and if the rage is there, the Brand America Boycott is ready for you. Take the campaign into your home, your school, your streets, your life. Help us bring a million signatures to the Boycott Brand America pledge. And let a thousand culture jams make their mark on this crazy war - and on the bigger fight to come.

It's all happening at
http://www.adbusters.org
Keep in touch.
The Staff & Volunteers at Adbusters



Capital Campus 3-21-03



Capital Campus 3-26-03

Capital Campus 3-26-03

A Manifesto on the Duty of Civil Disobedience

A Statement by the Ten People Locked Together at the Capital on March 26th

(pictured above)

For the sake of creating a peaceful dialogue with those who may misunderstand or disagree with our intentions and tactics, we must offer an explanation.

In reaction to the Nazi atrocities of the 1930's and 1940's, the world community came together to create an international system for the purpose of governing the behavior of nations. This international system has for its foundation the fundamental human rights to the freedom of speech and beliefs, and the freedom from want and fear. Governments that violate these human rights bring into question the legitimacy of their own legal power.

"Individuals have international duties which transcend the national obligation of obedience. Therefore individual citizens have the duty to violate domestic laws to prevent crimes against humanity from occurring" (Nuremberg Trials)

Our government has

- •waged an unjust and illegal war on a foreign nation that poses us no threat;
- •has worked to erode our own cherished civil rights;
- •has turned the media, ounce a valuable tool for democracy, into a propaganda machine, designed to instill fear and a dangerous, militant nationalism in the people;
- •and has, while spending untold billions on the machinery of war, allowed our schools to fall into disarray, allowed millions of our people to suffer hunger and homelessness, perpetuated violence against ethnic and gen der minorities, and allowed the utter degradation of our natural environment.

These all constitute crimes against peace and humanity, rendering our government and its laws invalid.

We declare, as citizens of the global community, that civil disobedience and non-violent direct action are the duty of every decent American, until such time when America complies with international law, and that obedience to the U.S. government implicates complicity in its crimes.

In so doing, we join a long standing and rich tradition that includes the likes of Henry David Thoreau, Mohandas Gandhi, the Industrial Workers of the World, Martin Luther King Jr., Act UP, Earth First, and our dear friend, Rachel Corrie.

The life and death of our comrade, Rachel, has inspired us and destroyed all human limitations for us. Rachel, your back may be broken, but your spirit lends strength to our actions.

Reclaim your culture! Speak your mind! Resist the war! We are the people of the world, and we will win!

Capital Campus 3-14-03

4th Ave. Bridge 3-20-03

Gulf of Tonkin De Ja Vue

Dennis Mills

I am a veteran of the United States Army 1966-1969. Many of us believed serving in the military was our duty, and our job was to defend this country. Some of us held other views. We were drafted out of college for a war we didn't want, believe in, or understood.

As an enlisted Army musician in the Band at Fort Lewis, I played for a pass and review as an entire infantry division left on troop ships from the Port of Tacoma for Viet Nam. For the next 18 months I was detailed to play for military funerals as these soldiers returned to the North West in body bags. Now I've just learned that the Pentagon has ordered 77,000 body bags to be prepared in anticipation of the Iraq war. There are not enough military musicians trained to play taps at funerals today, so the Pentagon is issuing non-musician soldiers trumpets with a built in computer chip that will play taps.

Why did 50,000 Americans and many more Vietnamese have to die? The Viet Nam Memorial on this ground brings sadness to many Olympians who remember a son, father, husband who were killed. I honor their sadness for their loss today. It saddens me as I lost friends, too. But it also angers me that we even have to have memorials for wars that were created through deceit and lies.

"American Planes Hit North Vietnam After Second Attack on Our Destroyers; Move Taken to Halt New Aggression", announced a Washington Post headline on Aug. 5, 1964. The front page of the New York Times reported: "President Johnson has ordered retaliatory action against gunboats and 'certain supporting facilities in North Vietnam' after renewed attacks against American destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin." The official story was that North Vietnamese torpedo boats launched an "unprovoked attack" against a U.S. destroyer on "routine patrol" in the Tonkin Gulf on Aug. 2 -- and that North Vietnamese PT boats followed up with a "deliberate attack" on a pair of U.S. ships two days later. On the night of Aug. 4, the Pentagon proclaimed that a second attack by North Vietnamese PT boats had occurred earlier that day in the Tonkin Gulf -- a report cited by President Johnson as he went on national TV that evening to announce a momentous escalation in the war: air strikes against North Vietnam.

But Johnson ordered U.S. bombers to "retaliate" for a North Vietnamese torpedo attack that never happened. Top officials in Washington had reason to doubt that any Aug. 4 attack by North Vietnam had occurred. Cables from the U.S. task force commander in the Tonkin Gulf, Captain John J. Herrick, referred to "freak weather effects," "almost total darkness" and an "overeager sonarman" who "was hearing ship's own propeller beat." The Los Angeles Times urged Americans to "face the fact that the Communists, by their attack on American vessels in international waters, have themselves escalated the hostilities."

During the Vietnam War veterans my age were ordered to destroy Vietnam from the air and on the ground. We used Agent Orange on the enemy and then returned home experiencing its effects first hand. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder still affects thousands of Viet Nam vets. More of us took our own lives after returning home than died in battle.

Today, I stand with the majority of humanity, including millions in our own country, in opposition to the United States' all out war on Iraq. We veterans span many wars and eras, have many political, religious, and world-views. We all agree that this war is wrong. I believe that all war is wrong.

I have a concern for those in the military whose lives will be permanently affected by their participation in a war with Iraq. My life was affected by Viet Nam, though I was not in combat. Peace is our best troop support. In 30 years, what lies and deceit will we remember that got us into a devastating war in the Middle East? What stories like the "Gulf of Tonkin" are being told to us today? Let's work together for peace throughout the world so we don't have to add another war memorial on the Capitol grounds!

Dennis W. Mills, Ph.D.
US Army 1966-1969
Olympia WA

A KAOS Patron Business
786-6027
JAMIE LEE & CO.
309 E. 4th
Olympia, WA
98501
there's more than hair in there
Full Service Salon
Botanical Haircare
Procucts
Hair
Manicures Tarot
Waxing Pedicures
Astrology Massage
Eye Lash & Brow
Tinting
Palmistry
Free Consultation - Free Bang Trims

SOUTH SOUND
GREEN PAGES
South Sound's Monthly Environmental Newspaper
Green Pages is a forum for individuals and organizations concerned about the integrity of our environment and the quality of life in our community.
209 East 4th Ave., Suite 206
Olympia, WA 98501
(360) 786-6349
speech@olywa.net www.olywa.net/speech

ALTERED STATES
ESSENTIAL BODY ART
Expert Tattooing
Body Piercing
Smoking Accessories
Adult Toys
QUEER FRIENDLY
307 E 4th Avenue
Olympia, WA 98501
360-754-6623 www.alteredstatesonline.com

Announcements (continued)

Media Island and Olympia Film Society Present:

UNPRECEDENTED: THE 2000 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

This documentary covers the scandal of how Bush won the 2000 presidential election. According to Coralie Carlson, Associated Press Writer, " of the film focuses on thousands of people, many of them black, purged from voter lists because they were erroneously identified as felons." Elaine Dutka of the Los Angeles Times says " emerges is a disturbing picture of an election marred by suspicious irregularities, electoral injustices, and sinister voter purges in a state governed by the winning candidate's brother. George W. Bush stole the presidency of the United States… and got away with it."

Unprecedented will be held at the Capital Theater, April 5th doors open at 1:30pm, 5.00 to 10.00 dollar sliding scale donation suggested; no one turned away. This movie is being shown, in part, to introduce the public to Greg Palast author of The Best Democracy Money Can Buy. Much of the information in this movie is due to the investigative reporting of Palast. Palast will be speaking about his book at Orca Books on April 7th at 5:30 pm, free entry.

Volunteer with GRuB! Interested in learning and contributing to a project dedicated to organic gardening, youth empowerment, and hunger alleviation. Come on out to GRuB's Sister Holly Youth Garden every Tuesday and Thursday this April & May from 2-4pm. If you are involved in an organization or youth group and would like an opportunity to bring your group out to the garden for an afternoon of team-building, education, and hard work, we have slots available on Saturdays to schedule you in. For directions and more information please call (360) 753-5522.

Tax Resistance Teach-in
Saturday, April 12, 2003
7pm
Traditions Cafe
sponsored by OMJP
www.omjp.org
Come learn about how the war is effecting government spending, where your tax dollars are going, how social services are impacted, and how you can participate in tax resistance.
Tax day is 4/15!
Speakers: economist Peter Bohmer, FOR's Glen Anderson, and others.
For more info: Larry Mosqueda 867-6513

Activist Toolkit

Non-Violent Direct Action & Legal Observer Workshops
APRIL 13th, Sunday,10am-6:30pm
Check in: 10am-10:30
Non-VIolent Direct Action workshop 10:30-4:30
Legal Observer 4:30-6:30
Location: The Evergreen State College/ subject to change

Street Medic Training
APRIL 19TH, SATURDAY, 9:30am-6:00pm OLYMPIA, WA
Facilitators: Black Cross Health Collective (Portland, OR) and Olympia area medicsCo-sponsored by Media Island, FreeSkool, and Evergreen Political Information Center (EPIC)
Check-in and breakfast: 9:30am
Workshop: 10:00-6:00
Location: The Evergreen State College in the Longhouse
Fee: Sliding scale $0-$40 Monies go to further the work of Black Cross

The 8-hour workshop we are offering both days is our standard class, intended as an introduction to protest first aid and aftercare. It will prepare the student to act as an affinity group-level medic. There will be time for lunch and some breaks. Students who already have lots of first aid training will want to take this course as we cover many things that are specific to protest health care. People with no first aid training will learn valuable first aid skills they can use anywhere, not just at protests.

We will also talk to students about how they can continue their training. Expect to have a lot of fun.

You will learn: Basic protest safety for you and your affinity group Chemical weapons (pepper spray) decontamination Herbal remedies and aftercare ABCs (Scene survey, scene management, Airway, Breathing, Circulation, spinal cord precautions, triage)

Dress as if you were going to a protest. Sensible shoes and raingear required; we may get you wet. Sandals are a no-no. Bring all the other gear you'd bring if you were going to a protest.Bring a small, squirt-top water bottle that's still sealed. Bring a lunch and snacks for yourself. Bring your friends.

Critical Mass- A facilitated discussion on Safety and Strategy
April 22nd, Tuesday
Time: 6:30pm
Location: Le Voyuer (the rear room), 404 4th Ave Olympia, WA

Pre-Registration is necessary for all workshops. Register on line at www.freeskoolco-op.org or call 1.877.296.4981

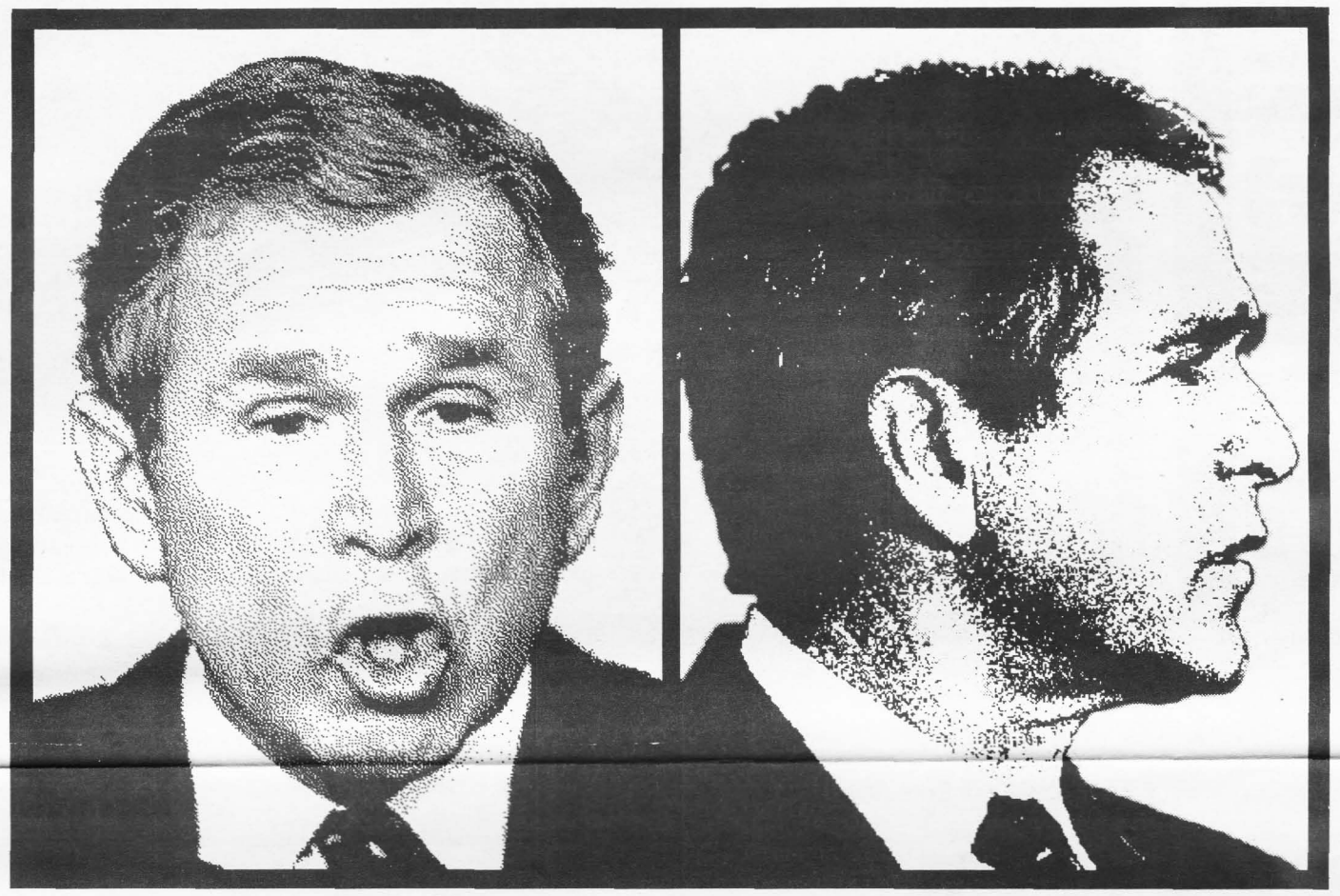
For complete class descriptions visit www.freeskoolco-op.org and link on the Activist Toolkit link, or call toll free-1.877.296.4981or stop by Media Island, 816 Adams Street, Olympia, WA, across from the Olympia Timberland Library www.mediaisland.org 360.352.8526

TERRORIST ALERT!

Have you seen this man??

Do not try to apprehend. Contact authorities immediately.

He is nuclear armed and extremely dangerous.



George W. Bush

aka "the President", aka "Dubya", aka "Shrub"

Wanted for Questioning in connection with an Unconstitutional Conspiracy to Invade with Intent to Kill.

Anyone providing information leading to his arrest and conviction by the Internation Criminal Court will be smiled on by a grateful world.

A Partial List of the Crimes of George W. Bush's Administration:

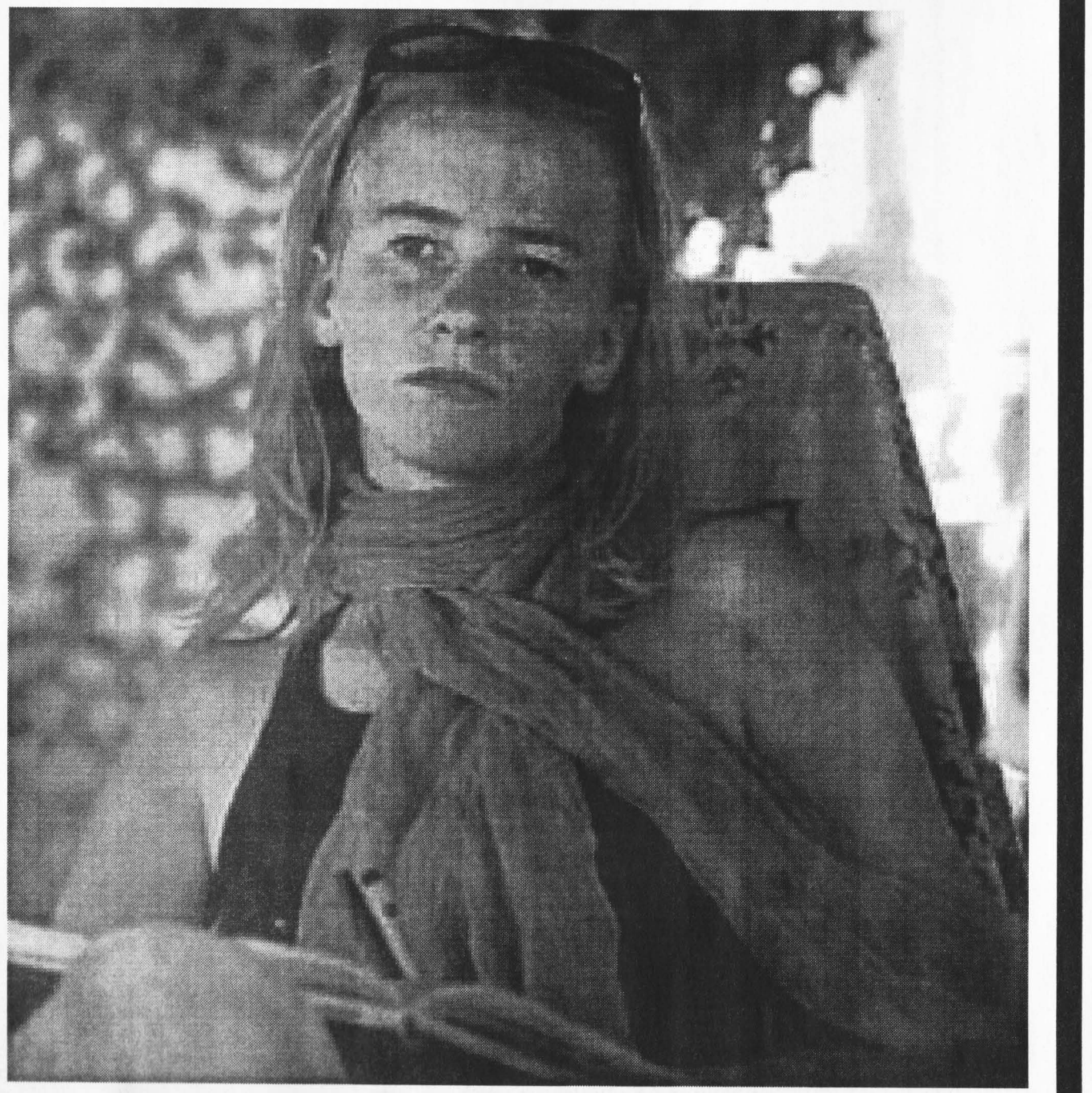
• Gutted the biological weapons convention while experimenting, illegally, with biological weapons of its own • Refused to grant chemical weapons inspectors full access to its laboratories • Disposed of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty • Threatens to violate the International Nuclear Test Ban Treaty • Permitted CIA hit squads to recommence covert operations of the kind that included, in the past, assassination of foreign heads of state • Sabotaged the Illicit Small Arms Treaty • Undermined the International Criminal Court • Refused to sign Kyoto climate change protocol • Sought to block the UN convention against torture so that it could keep foreign observers out of its prison camp in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba • Invading Iraq with no mandate from UN Security Council in defiance of international law - far graver than Saddam Hussein's non-compliance with UN weapons inspectors.

free

TRUTH ABOUT POWER IS SPOKEN HERE

W.I.P.

WORKS IN PROGRESS



1
Rachel Corrie, Nuha Sweidan and Israeli War Crimes
&
Investigation into the Death of Stephen Edwards

5
Memoirs of a CopWatcher

6
Is Public Health Being Co-Opted?

7
A History of May Day in Olympia

8
Rachel Corrie

10
Sacred Earth and Space Plowshares II

11
Know More
Richard Perle

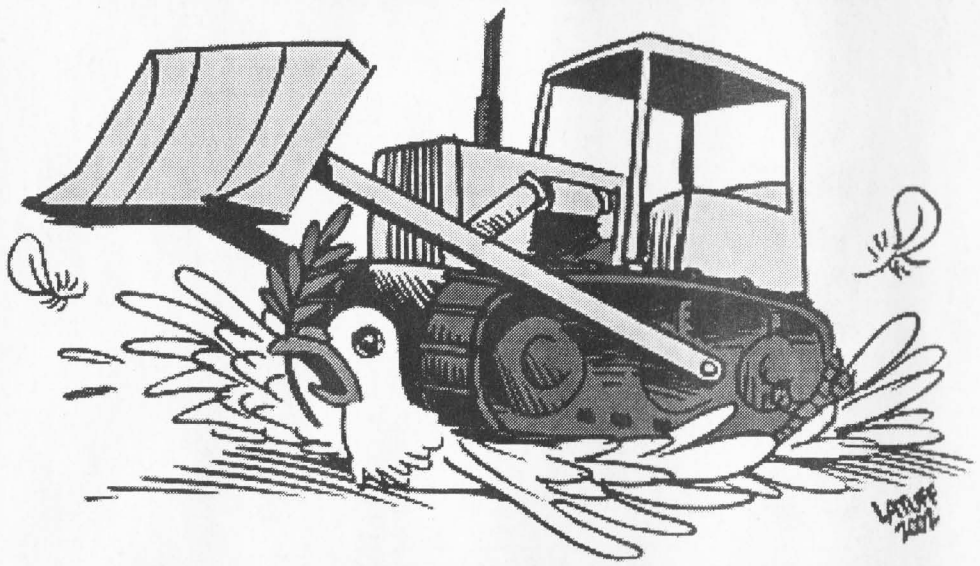
12
No War! and Direct Action

15
Terrorist Alert

Works In Progress
PO Box 295
Olympia, WA 98507

CATERRORPILLAR

DEMOLISHING PALESTINE



DEMOLISHING PEACE